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PAGES 27-35



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WEEKEND, December 21-23,
2012



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Yalda have a merry Xmas!

Solstice. Local Persians
celebrate tradition



**GRAHAM
LANKTREE**
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Yalda is older than Christmas, but shares its spirit, say Iranians who celebrate the Persian winter solstice celebration.

"It's the night of birth or rebirth," said Shahriar Ayoubzadeh, an Iranian of the Baha'i faith who came to Canada in 1987. "In the old tradition, they used to celebrate exactly like Christmas with candles in the windows and lights in the house."

Friday, members of Ottawa's 12,000-strong Persian community will celebrate Yalda with family get-togethers, a large gathering downtown and the traditional spread of pomegranates, watermelon and mixed nuts. The celebration's similarities with Christmas don't end there, Ayoubzadeh noted.

"When it was a religious ceremony, it used to be a tradition to give gifts. The pomegranate is also essential. Its tiny grains represent 40 lights."

Celebrated on the longest day of the year, usually Dec. 20 or 21, Yalda was founded by followers of Mithraism, who say Yalda is the celebration of the birth of Mithra, the Persian angel of light and truth. "When Islam came to Iran, many of the previous religious traditions turned into cultural festivals," he said. "Now Iranians all over the world celebrate it. If you have Iranian friends you will see people congratulating each other on Facebook."

Families stay up through the night to get rid of the misfortune that bad spirits bring, said Ayoubzadeh, adding that the Persian poet Sa'di wrote "the true morning will not come, until the Yalda Night is gone."

Many Iranian families also celebrate Christmas, creating hybrid celebrations. "We do celebrate Christmas," said Ayoubzadeh, "as part of the Western culture that we're in. But Yalda is a tradition, I believe, that the non-Iranian community isn't aware of."

Ottawa's Iranian community will celebrate Yalda Friday Dec. 21 at La Discoteka at 349 Dalhousie St. from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.



Shahriar Ayoubzadeh of Ottawa's Iranian community said that the Persian solstice celebration of Yalda on Dec. 21 shares many commonalities with the spirit of Christmas. GRAHAM LANKTREE/METRO

Happy holidays

Metro will not publish again until Boxing Day. Watch for our special preview of 2013

Veiled response

Supreme Court fails to come to a definitive ruling on testifying in a niqab PAGE 8



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Woman dies following crash on Upper Dwyer Hill Road

Tragedy. Tow truck had to pull car from ditch after rescue workers were unable to free woman from overturned vehicle



GRAHAM LANKTREE

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A 43-year-old woman succumbed to her injuries in hospital, after being airlifted from the scene of a crash on Upper Dwyer Hill Road Thursday morning, police say.

The victim was found in cardiac arrest and with symptoms of hypothermia after her car rolled into a ditch filled with icy water.

"No one could gain access

to the patient," said Steve Leu, operations superintendent with Ottawa Paramedics, noting that the woman's black Toyota Corolla was upside down when emergency services arrived on scene at the intersection of Upper Dwyer Hill and March Road.

"The patient was in the ditch for an extended period of time," he said. "The vehicle was submerged to the level of the tires. We had to hook a tow truck to the vehicle and roll it over before we were able to gain access."

A call was made to 911 at 8:16 a.m. and emergency services had the woman out of the car and headed to the Ottawa Hospital's trauma centre on an ORNGE air ambulance shortly after 8:38 a.m. Paramedics said they did not know how long the woman was in the ditch before the



A paramedic works to revive a 43-year-old woman found in cardiac arrest after a single-vehicle crash on Upper Dwyer Hill Road. MIKE CARROCCETTO/FOR METRO

call was made.

"When we got to the patient, she was in cardiac arrest," said Leu. "We gave care for someone who is hypo-

thermic because she was submerged. The full passenger compartment was submerged in water. As far as we know, her head was under

water."

Leu said that the woman remained in cardiac arrest while she was being transported to hospital.

Campaign. Thousands expected to attend Idle No More rally in Ottawa

First Nations chiefs and their supporters from across Canada are expected to arrive in Ottawa for a massive rally Thursday under the banner of the Idle No More movement.

The movement exploded on Twitter after a group of women from Saskatchewan started using the #IdleNoMore hashtag to mobilize Canadians against federal legislation which critics say curtails indigenous treaty rights and weakens environmental protections.

The rally will start at noon on Victoria Island, where Attawapiskat Chief

Theresa Spence currently resides during her ongoing hunger strike. Spence began fasting on Dec. 11 and vows to continue until Prime Minister Stephen Harper and a representative of the Queen agree to meet with her.

The rally will then make its way to Parliament Hill, where a number of MPs and First Nations chiefs are expected to speak.

Ottawa police advised motorists they anticipate traffic disruptions in the downtown core from noon to 4 p.m. Thursday.

JOE LOFARO/METRO

Fouad Nayel murder case

Accused to face court in January

A man accused of first-degree murder in the death of 28-year-old Fouad Nayel of Ottawa made a second brief court appearance on Thursday.

A soft-spoken Adam J. Picard, 29, appeared by video link from jail wearing an orange jumpsuit while his case was spoken to in front of a justice of the peace.

He was ordered to appear again by video link on Jan. 9.

Nayel's body was found in a wooded area in Calabogie on Nov. 11 after his family reported him missing on June 17.

METRO

Storm. Dream of a white Christmas will turn into a reality for Ottawa

It may not be a world ending scenario, but a winter storm set to hit Ottawa overnight Thursday and throughout Friday is going to wreak havoc on your commute as it dumps nearly 30 centimetres of snow on the city.

"Obviously, people need to be very careful driving tomorrow," said Environment Canada meteorologist Peter Kimbell. "I can't tell people what to do, but it would be better for them not to be travelling tomorrow if they don't have to."

The worst of the storm will come overnight Thursday, leaving roads a mess for

the morning commute. "Rush hour will be a mess, to put it bluntly," said Kimbell, adding that the good news is that road cleaners should be able to remove the snow easily, since temperatures will rise to 0 C.

All of which is to say that Ottawa will have a white Christmas this year. As the storm system moves out Saturday, sporadic flurries will fill the day before a cold air system moves into the region Sunday. Christmas Day will see a high of -6 C, Kimbell said before the next potential storm system moves in Dec. 27. GRAHAM LANKTREE/METRO

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New Year's Eve 2013 in Ottawa. What are you doing to see off 2012?



Spark's Street New Year's Eve. Ottawa's only outdoor New Year's Eve party is creating the Times Square Experience by bringing the hottest Canadian musical acts — including Juno-winners The Arkells, a celebrity host and locals Autumn's Canon and Three Little Birds — to the stage for free. sparkstreet-mall.com.



James Bond New Year's Party 2013. Quite possibly the classiest party the city has to offer, feel suave and sophisticated as you order from the special Bond martini menu (shaken, not stirred) dressed either as a spy in a smart cut suit or sexy Bond Girl at the elegant lounge of My Condo. (Aston Martin rental not included.) mycondoottawa.ca.



Pier 21 East Coast New Year's Mega Party. Wish you could celebrate New Year's in a Halifax pub? Grab your mates and a pitcher of Alexander Keith's to get the next best thing at Pier 21's party. Ring in 2013 three times for each time zone when it hits midnight with Newfoundland, Atlantic and Eastern Time being toasted the Maritime way. pier21pub.ca.



Brother Beer Bistro New Year's Eve. The capital's newest brewery restaurant is offering a three-course meal with thoughtful craft-beer pairings. Serving up Moroccan-glazed sablefish, braised beef short ribs and decadent desserts over two seatings, enjoy a quiet gourmet meal with your sweet heart before the night's revelry begins. brothersbeerbistro.ca.



New Year's Eve Crystal Ball 2013. Strut your stuff in all things fabulous to the beats of DJ Martin Leguerrier at the Crystal Ball. At Ottawa's most popular gay bar, The Edge, the two rooms will be spinning songs to dance the rest of the year away to with a champagne toast at midnight. Drinks included. clubedgeottawa.com.



Yuk Yuk's New Year's Eve. For a full night of funny, head over to Elgin Street to Yuk Yuk's comedy club to get a belly-full of laughs before the bubbly is popped. New York-based comic and star of new groundbreaking series 24 Hour Rental, Aaron Berg headlines with top female comedian Jen Grant warming up the audience. yukyus.com.

Help a family in need this holiday season

New answer to the question. 'What to get for the person who has everything?'



ALEX BOUTILLIER
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What has four legs, costs \$100, and can change a family's life in the developing world this holiday season?

If you answered a goat, one of World Vision's holiday gifts, Julie Parker, the charitable organization's spokesperson in Ottawa, says you're right.

"To us, we see a goat. But to them, to the people that we serve and work with in the countries where World Vision is, this goat represents hope," said Parker on Thursday. "It's the hope of being able to feed your

children, to have a sustainable income and to provide education."

World Vision has a long list of gifts available on their online store, worldvision.ca/gifts, to help families in the developing world. Under the "most needed" section are beehives, to start a business and provide honey, clean water for one family and community latrines.

Those gifts also run about \$100. Other gifts include clothing for 25 children (\$35), textbooks for children (\$30), and sports equipment (\$30). Parker said the gifts can be tailored to suit anybody's Christmas list.

"Goats are one of over 50 (gifts)," said Parker. "For teachers, you can buy school supplies for \$50, and that supplies a whole classroom.... There's things for the coaches, sports equipment, so kids can get inspired and have goals."



Anita Dworschak, left, and World Vision's Julie Parker pose with two of Dworschak's goats in the ByWard Market on Thursday. A goat for a family in the developing world is one of 50 gifts available through World Vision.

ALEX BOUTILLIER/METRO

Cameras & lock. Boards react to premier's call for tighter security measures

Two Ottawa school boards are awaiting Ministry of Education direction after Premier Dalton McGuinty announced Thursday he wants surveillance cameras installed and front doors locked at all 4,000 elementary schools in the province by September.

The announcement came six days after 20 students and six staff members were shot to death by a man who stormed into Sandy Hook Elementary school in Newtown, Conn.

McGuinty said implementing the new measures by next fall would cost \$10 million.

Jennifer Adams, director of the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board, said in a statement Thursday security is the board's first priority.

"Building security and surveillance cameras can be an important part of a larger school-safety tool kit, which includes appropriate safety

plans, staff and student training and a safe schools culture," said Adams.

She said 20 OCDSB elementary schools already have front-door cameras.

Some schools are designed to have the front entrance in plain view of staff working at the front desk.

Mardi de Kemp, spokesperson for the Ottawa Catholic School Board, said the majority of her board's elementary schools have a front desk located near the entrance.

"At this time, all our elementary schools do have a locked door policy," said de Kemp. "The exception to that is a place in a school where the front office — the front desk — is near the front door."

She could not provide a number of Catholic schools that have video cameras. **SEAN MCKIBBON/WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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The best defence ... Teachers at Texas school to carry firearms

In the tiny Texas town of Harrold, children and their parents don't give much thought to safety at the community's lone school — mostly because some of the teachers are carrying concealed weapons.

The nearest sheriff's office is 30 minutes away, and people tend to know — and trust — one another. So the school board voted to let teachers bring guns to school.

"We don't have money for a security guard, but this is a better solution," superintendent David Thweatt said. "A shooter could take out a guard or officer with a visible, holstered weapon, but our teachers have master's degrees, are older and have had extensive training. And their guns are hidden. We can protect our children."

In the awful aftermath of last week's Connecticut elementary school shooting, lawmakers in a growing number of states — including Oklahoma, Missouri, Minnesota, South Dakota and Oregon — have said they will consider laws allowing teachers and school administrators

Community support

"I think it's a great idea for trained teachers to carry weapons.... But I hate that it has come to this."

CaRae Reinisch, resident of Elliott, a town near Harrold

to carry firearms at school.

Texas law bans guns in schools unless the school has given written authorization. Arizona and six other states have similar laws with exceptions for people who have licenses to carry concealed weapons.

Harrold's school board voted unanimously in 2007 to allow employees to carry weapons. After obtaining a state concealed-weapons permit, each employee who wants to carry a weapon must be approved by the board based on his or her personality and reaction to a crisis, Thweatt said.

Employees also must undergo training in crisis intervention and hostage situations. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Gun control

NRA to comment on gun violence

Now that President Barack Obama has demanded "real action, right now" against U.S. gun violence, attention turned Thursday to the coming "major news conference" by the country's top gun lobby, whose power for years has contributed to the political hesitation around the issue.

The National Rifle Association has promised to make its announcement Friday — the last real work day before Washington, and the rest of the country, scatters for the long Christmas holiday. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Gun charges

Sask. politician to appear in court

A former Saskatoon mayoral candidate has appeared in court to face charges related to an alleged disagreement at a bar.

Clay Mazurkewich (mah-ZURH'-keh-wich), who came in a distant third in October's municipal election, is accused of possessing weapons dangerous to the public.

Al Werner, a customer at the Coachman Lounge, says he and Mazurkewich were having a disagreement Wednesday when the would-be politician pulled out a gun. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Slain teacher protected students from gunman



Mourners exit a church in Katonah, N.Y., after the funeral for Anne Marie Murphy on Thursday. Murphy was killed when Adam Lanza walked into Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn., Dec. 14, and opened fire.
LINDSAY NIEGELBERG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sandy Hook shooting. 52-year-old one of six educators killed in Newtown massacre

A teacher who authorities said died trying to protect her students in the Connecticut school shooting that left 28 people dead was laid to rest Thursday.

Anne Marie Murphy, 52, was remembered as a teacher who "brought together a community, a nation, a world, now awed by her own life and death," in a eulogy by Timothy Dolan, Archbishop of New York.

Murphy's father, Hugh McGowan, said authorities told him that she died trying to

Archbishop

"Annie's life and death brings light, truth ... and love to a world often shrouded in darkness ..."

Timothy Dolan, Archbishop of New York

protect her young pupils. Her body was found covering a group of children's bodies as if to shield them, McGowan said.

About 15 people arrived at St. Mary of the Assumption Church in Katonah, N.Y., in a yellow school bus with "Newtown," the name of the Connecticut town where the shooting occurred, written on its side. The church quickly filled and about 100 mourners waited outside.

A Justice Department official said the country's top lawyer, Attorney General Eric Holder, would visit the town Thursday to meet privately with first responders and law-enforcement officials.

At least nine funerals and wakes were held Wednesday for those who died when 20-year-old gunman Adam Lanza, armed with a military-style assault rifle, broke into Sandy Hook Elementary School and opened fire. He killed six adults and 20 children, all of them six or seven years old.

More tributes were scheduled for Friday and Saturday. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Volunteer veteran stands guard at California school

A Marine veteran of Iraq and Afghanistan took up self-imposed duty in front of a central California elementary school in the wake of the Connecticut shooting.

Hughson Elementary School Principal Laura Fong said Sgt. Craig Pusley stood all day Wednesday in fatigues in front of the flag pole at the school just southeast of Modesto. He was not armed.

Pusley, who served two tours in Iraq and one in Af-

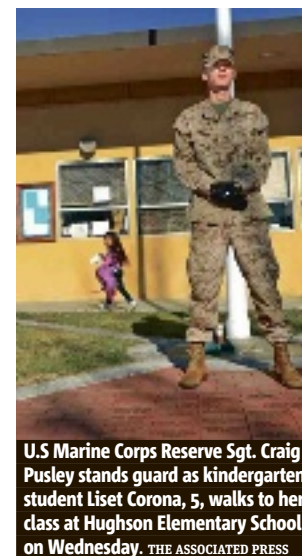
ghanistan before leaving active duty last year, told Fong that "he wanted to make the kids feel safe in light of what happened at Sandy Hook Elementary," the principal said.

The veteran Marine arrived at the K-3 school a little before 7:30 am, Fong said, and asked permission to stand guard. He stood in front of the flag pole until 2:30 p.m., she said, without taking any breaks.

Sgt. Pusley is a father of a three-year-old and his wife is

expecting another child. He told the Modesto Bee that he decided to take action after reading a Facebook post urging soldiers to be posted at every school in the wake of last week's tragic shooting in Connecticut.

"When I enlisted, I swore to defend this country from all enemies, foreign and domestic," Sgt. Pusley said. "I just want to be sure all these kids go home safe for Christmas." **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Sgt. Craig Pusley stands guard as kindergarten student Liset Corona, 5, walks to her class at Hughson Elementary School on Wednesday. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



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Supreme Court split on freedom to testify in a veil

Balancing act. Ruling states each judge must weigh religious rights and right to a fair trial

A sharply divided Supreme Court of Canada was not able to definitively rule Thursday whether a woman can wear a religious veil known as a niqab while testifying in court.

In a rare 4-2-1 split decision, the Supreme Court ruled that a witness can cover their face in certain circumstances.

The case pitted two protections in the Charter of Rights and Freedoms against each other — religious freedom versus an accused person's right to a fair trial.

The practical effect of that decision was to pass the case back to an Ontario trial judge that had just begun a preliminary hearing.

In this case, a Muslim



The Supreme Court was not able to definitively rule on niqabs in court.
MAYA ALLERUZZO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

woman sought to wear a niqab while testifying against two men she claims sexually assaulted her as a child.

The two men claim the charter allows them to confront their accuser and observe her facial expressions as she

testifies. Due to a publication ban, the woman can only be identified as N.S.

Chief Justice Beverley McLachlin wrote for the majority and affirmed the two charter rights should receive the fullest possible expression.

McLachlin spelled out a four-step analysis that the judge at N.S.'s preliminary hearing can now use to determine the issue. The ruling will also be a precedent in other cases.

"The judge must assess all these factors and determine whether ... the salutary effects of requiring the witness to remove the niqab outweigh the deleterious effects of doing so."

The ruling told trial judges to ask themselves three questions: Would requiring the witness to remove the niqab interfere with her religious freedom? Would permitting the witness to wear it create a serious risk to trial fairness? Is there a way to accommodate both rights? **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



Monkey mom melancholy

Media swarm Yasmin Nakhuda as she leaves a hearing about her monkey Darwin — the Ikea monkey — with his coat in her hands at the Superior Court of Justice in Oshawa, Ont. The custody case is expected to resume in mid-January. **RENE JOHNSTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

First Nations protest

Woman charged in hammer attack

A woman is facing a mischief charge after footage of her attacking a First Nations protester in London, Ont., was posted on YouTube.

The video shows a woman walking out of an apartment building, talking briefly with protesters then hitting a car with a hammer. **ANGELA MULLINS/METRO IN LONDON, ONT.**

Edutainment

Teacher in trouble over drag video

In the small community of Brentwood Bay on Vancouver Island, a video featuring bikini-clad drag queens has been deemed too racy for the classroom.

Brentwood Elementary School teacher Joe Winkler showed the clip to his Grade 4 students as an introduction to transgender issues.

After parent complaints, Winkler was suspended without pay pending an investigation in January.

LUKE SIMCOE/METRO ONLINE



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Olympian worked as escort

Double life. After reports of prostitution, runner Suzy Favor Hamilton tweets that she's been working for an escort service for the past year

Three-time Olympic runner Suzy Favor Hamilton has admitted leading a double life as an escort.

She apologized Thursday after a report by The Smoking Gun website said she had been working as a prostitute in Las Vegas.

The 44-year-old Favor Hamilton lives in Madison,

Wis. The Smoking Gun said she has been working for the past year for an escort service.

Soon after the story appeared online, Favor Hamilton released a series of tweets saying in part that she was "drawn to escorting in large part because it provided many coping mechanisms for me when I was going through a very challenging time with my marriage and my life."

A middle-distance runner, Favor Hamilton competed for the U.S. at the Olympics in 1992, 1996 and 2000, but did not win a medal. She won seven U.S. national titles.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Suzy Favor Hamilton reacts after winning the women's 1,500-metre run at the U.S. championships in Atlanta in 1999. The three-time Olympian has admitted leading a double life as an escort. JOHN BAZEMORE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Unlucky 2013?

Good-luck charms installed in Times Square

Officials in New York City have gathered good luck charms to accompany the unlucky number 13 that will light up when the New Year's Eve ball drops in Times Square.

The New York Post reports that 13 good-luck charms will be installed along with the sign atop One Times Square for the celebration that will ring in the new year. The charms include a four-leaf clover, gold coins and a Buddha statue to assuage the fears of any superstitious revelers. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Beauty pageant

Miss Universe crown heads back to the U.S.

An American university student is the new Miss Universe, bringing the crown back to the U.S. after a drought of more than a decade.

Twenty-year-old Olivia Culpo won the title Wednesday night in Las Vegas, replacing outgoing champion Leila Lopes of Angola and beating out 88 competitors from six continents.

Miss Philippines, Janine Tugonon, came in second, while Miss Venezuela, Irene Sofia Esser Quintero, was third. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Place D'Orléans, Orléans
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Four dead as snowstorm slams midwestern U.S.

Winter's here.

Slippery roads, cancelled flights and blankets of snow may put a damper on holiday travels

Four people died as the first major snowstorm of the season hit the U.S. Midwest early Thursday, threatening to

disrupt some of the nation's busiest airports ahead of the holiday weekend.

Forecasters warned that heavy snow coupled with strong winds could create blizzard conditions from Kansas to Wisconsin after the storm blanketed the Rocky Mountains earlier in the week.

In Chicago, officials at O'Hare International Airport reported more than 90 cancellations.

In Iowa, state police said a 25-vehicle pileup killed at least one person.

In Wisconsin, sheriff's officials said slick conditions led to at least two deaths late Wednesday when a driver lost control of his car. In Utah, a woman who tried to walk for help after her car became stuck in snow died Tuesday night. Search and rescue crews on snowmobiles found her buried in the snow.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Southern toll

- **Mobile, Ala.** High winds peeled the roofs off buildings and toppled trucks but no one was injured.
- **Mississippi, Louisiana, Alabama.** Tornado warnings remained in effect in parts of these areas.



Cameron Jones gets some help after getting stuck in a snowbank in Omaha, Neb., Thursday after the first major snowstorm of the season.

THE OMAHA WORLD-HERALD/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Environment Canada. Prolonged warm weather was the big story of 2012

Wild winds

19

Number of tropical storms that rolled through North America this year—double the amount of a typical season.

Canada coped with a slew of natural disasters from freak storms to floods this calendar year, but the country's meteorological watchdog says Canadians will remember 2012 as the year when the weather was too hot to handle.

Environment Canada says unusually high temperatures from coast to coast ranked as the top climate-related story of the year.

Senior climatologist David Phillips says Canadians experienced warmer than average conditions right through

the year, making the stretch from January to November the fourth-warmest on record since 1948.

Phillips says the three-month stretch from July to September was the warmest on record over the past 65 years. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



A house sinks in Two Mile, B.C., due to heavy rainfall. Experts say Canadians will remember the heat over natural disasters this year. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Skiing accident

Father and sons rescued at resort

For the second time in less than a week, rescuers have been called out to help people who went out of bounds in a B.C. ski area.

In the latest case, a father and his three sons got lost Wednesday after leaving the marked ski area of the Revelstoke Mountain Resort. The RCMP says they were rescued Thursday morning.

THE CANADIAN PRESS


South Africa

Toad stowed in candlestick

It's a real-life Mr. Toad's Wild Ride.

Animal-rescue officials in South Africa say they found a toad from China hidden inside a porcelain candlestick.

The Star newspaper reported that workers had to break the candlestick to get the toad out. It was still alive but had to be put down as a possible invasive species to South Africa. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



Winter Service

New winter schedules start January 6. Avoid winter road conditions and leave the driving to us.


On Sunday, January 6, winter schedules go into effect on most routes. Obtain a new timetable for all red- and green-numbered routes, as well as the following: **1 through 18, 85, 86, 87, 93, 95, 96, 98, 99, 101, 106, 111, 114, 116, 118, 121, 124, 126, 129, 130, 131, 132, 144, 149, 150, 164, 170, 171, 172, 175, 176, 177 and 178.**

Service Improvements Effective December 23
On Sunday, December 23, the following changes will be implemented:

- 2X** trips that travel between Lincoln Fields and Carlingwood via Richmond Road, McEwen and Ambleside will be replaced by new Route 153 described below. Trips travelling between Westboro and Carlingwood will be unchanged.
- 5** will have a new morning trip added from downtown to Billings Bridge on weekdays in response to increased ridership.
- 87** will have two mid-day trips added between Hurdman Station and St. Patrick's Home on Riverside Drive. These trips will operate seven days a week and provide improved access to transit for seniors as well as connections to Billings Bridge and downtown. Service will be available at the bus stop on the east side of Riverside Drive at St. Patrick's driveway.
- 93** will have increased service westbound from 8 to 9 a.m. on weekdays in response to an increase in ridership. In the afternoon rush hour, supplementary trips that depart from 4000 Innovation will be extended to start at Hines Road in order to bring service closer to customers.
- 106** will be extended to and from downtown in the early morning on an hourly basis. These changes will provide 24/7 service and improved connections to the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario and The Ottawa Hospital, General Campus on Smyth Road.
- 116** will have several trips added on weekends to better serve the Hunt Club/Riverside commercial area and the Rideau Heights Industrial Park on Antares and Auriga. The trips will operate in both directions during the day between Greenboro Station and MacFarlane at Briggs.

- 129** will have the weekday trip to the Aviation and Space Museum adjusted later to better match museum hours.
- 130** will have trips extended from Innes and Jeanne d'Arc to Millennium Station until approximately 10 p.m. on weekday evenings and 7 p.m. on weekends for improved service to the growing community south of Innes.
- 144** will have two weekday morning trips extended from Bank and Leirrim to start on Conroy near Davidson, which will provide residents of Kemp Park with a connection to rapid transit service at Leirrim Station.
- 153** will replace Route 2X between Lincoln Fields Station and Carlingwood, serving Lincoln Fields Shopping Centre, Richmond Road, McEwen and Ambleside. Service will also be increased, with three additional trips in each direction on weekdays and two trips on weekends, providing more options for customers. Some trip times may change from the current schedule as a result of the additional service. Route 2 will continue to be available along Richmond Road.
- 171** will have new limited service operating on Saturdays and Sundays during the mid-day for reduced walking distances and improved connections to transit on weekends for customers in central Barrhaven.
- 177** will be expanded to operate on Sundays between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m., which will provide residents in the growing Barrhaven community of Stonebridge West with connections to rapid transit service, shopping, and more.
- 262** will have a new morning trip added, departing Fernbank at 5:46 a.m., to bring commuters downtown earlier.
- 633** will be modified slightly to travel from St. Laurent Station via Michael and Cyrville to Ogilvie Road, similar to Route 127, rather than via St. Laurent Blvd.

Cancelled Trips
Due to extremely low ridership, one or two trips will be cancelled at the beginning or end of the day on routes **18, 127, 132, 143, 161 and 170.** Please check the new schedule.



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Wireless industry. Data use fuels revenue growth

Here's my cell number. Call me, maybe? Or maybe not. Cellphone users are doing less calling as they buy more smartphones and use the device for texting, emailing, web surfing, mobile apps, social networking and watching videos.

And it's that surge in data use that Canada's telecom companies — big and small — are banking on as the revenue driver of the future.

"It's no longer just your teenage kids. It's everybody," telecom analyst Brahm Eiley said. "They use their phone the way they would use their PC," he added.

Dan Maitland has an iPhone and hardly uses it for calls. "These are not just phones," said Maitland, 39, who makes software that helps train pilots to be safer at flight simulator company CAE Inc. in Montreal.

"They are small computers

By the numbers

55%

The Convergence Consulting Group expects that about 55 per cent of all cellphone users in Canada will have smartphones by the end of this year. That's expected to increase to 65 per cent by the end of 2013 and go up to 80 per cent by year-end 2016.

that have the ability to make a phone call."

Maitland said he uses his iPhone for such things as web searches, apps, accessing files for work and reading.

And Maitland is doing exactly what wireless providers expect and want him to do to help increase their data revenues in the years ahead.

Faster wireless networks are also helping drive the increasing use of data by consumers, Eiley added. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Y kant Canaydians spel? Blame it on the Internet

Disappearing skills.

Digital life is ruining our ability to do basic tasks such as spell properly, recall phone numbers and write by hand

Canadians may be among the world's most prolific Internet users, but it seems all that time online hasn't made us a nation of careful spellers.

Many of us often type "facebok" into Google and rather than correcting the obvious mistake, let the search engine fix it. Monitoring Canadians' search habits would reveal that many, many more consistently type in "faceboo," "faebook" and "fcaebok" — but they know Google will get the point.

Others can't be bothered to tap out even eight characters and have learned that entering just "face" or "fb" will get them exactly the link they're seeking.

Is that lazy or efficient? Should we be thanking Google's engineers for saving us a few seconds or lament that



A woman types while surfing the Internet in North Vancouver on Wednesday. Our continued reliance on technology means we're no longer very good at undertaking manual, old-fashioned tasks. JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

technology is dooming us to intellectual laziness?

It seems hardly anyone can remember phone numbers anymore since we started storing them in our mobile phones.

Outside of schools and some workplaces, the practice of putting pen to paper is becoming increasingly rare. To many, scribbling with a pen feels quaint in today's digital age.

Who needs maps and a sense of direction with GPS technology — which is now nearly ubiquitous on smartphones and tablets — to guide the way?

And now voice-recognition software is exploding in efficiency and popularity, raising the prospect that typing could eventually become another skill that's made redundant by

Quoted

"When you're typing ... you don't have to think — (and autocorrect) thinks for you. So I was like, 'Wow, I'm really scary now when I don't have Google or spellcheck to help me out.'"

Matthew Thomas, 33

convenient, task-relieving technology.

For Matthew Thomas, 33, it was the signing of a birthday card that made him consider just how infrequent old-fashioned manual tasks like handwriting have become in his typical routine.

"I realized how rarely I'm actually ever writing anything by hand and there was like a moment of panic where I felt a little scared because as I was writing I was having a hard time," Thomas said, noting that he felt the need to concentrate more and think about the act of writing compared to the automatic process of typing.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Drink up! Dairy producers depend on eggnog rush

As you raise a glass of eggnog over the holidays, consider that you're making the season brighter for the country's farmers.

There's typically a decline in milk consumption over the holiday period as people turn to boozy beverages, and some dairy producers say that eggnog sales are key in offsetting that slump.

Andrew Taylor, plant manager at Hewitt's Dairy in Hagersville, Ont. said the operation sees an increase of 10 to

Quoted

"We rely on (eggnog). Farmers need a consistent market and it helps to maintain that consistency."

Andrew Taylor, plant manager, Hewitt's Dairy in Hagersville, Ont.

15 per cent in sales — usually lasting from the beginning of December until early January — and that eggnog is the beverage behind the jump.

"Any increase in sales we look forward to, but we plan for it every year," said Taylor. "People look forward to it."

"Overall milk sales tend to fall in December as people tend to drink other things, usually an alcoholic beverage, so anything that compensates for that is something that we look forward to," said Taylor.

**MORGAN MODJESKI/
METRO IN SASKATOON**

Holiday Hours

Transit Schedule

December 24, 27-28, January 2-4, 2013 Reduced Weekday Schedule
 December 25 and January 1, 2013 Sunday Schedule
 December 26 Saturday Schedule
 December 31 Reduced Weekday Schedule, FREE after 8 p.m.

Transit Information Centre 613-741-4390

December 24, 27-28, 31, January 2-4, 2013 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
 December 25, 30 and January 1, 2013 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 December 26, 29 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.

N.B. Customer Relations (613-842-3600) will be closed December 25, 26 and January 1, and will operate from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. December 24, 27, 28 and 31, and January 2-4.

Sales and Information Centres

	Rideau* Centre	Lincoln Fields Place d'Orléans St. Laurent
December 24, 31	8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.	7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
December 25 and January 1, 2013	Closed	Closed
December 26	10 a.m. to 6 p.m.	Closed
December 27-28, January 2-4	8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.	7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
December 29	9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.	11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
December 30	11 a.m. to 5 p.m.	Closed

***Extended hours December 22, until 9 p.m., and December 23, until 6 p.m.**

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Bullo Wireless:
1414 Walkley Rd
IGO Cyber House Inc:
223 Bank St

FTA Tronix:
1807 Carling Ave

City Mobile:
TNT Supermarket 224
Hunt Club Rd, Unit B

Rocknet Telecom Inc.
967 St. Laurent Blvd,
Unit 3

MAPLE SYRUP HEIST, RAPTORS BACK ON THE BALL AND A TOP-10 HIT



THE LIST
Mike Benhaim
metronews.ca

1 Say what? South African President Jacob Zuma maintains leadership of the currently ruling African National Congress party by defeating deputy president Kgalema

Motlanthe with a dubious 75 per cent majority vote. Perhaps it's just that the robocalls had trouble pronouncing the name Kgalema Motlanthe.

2 **Slap-happy.** Researchers at the University of Pittsburgh have created a sophisticated prosthetic arm that can translate brain signals into the appropriate movements. While a definite boon for the physically challenged, I raise two concerns: You just know some rich guy is eventually going to buy a couple of extra arms for no good reason, and someone having a bad dream will end up slapping the heck out of their bed-partner.

3 **Holy crepes.** After a huge manhunt, Quebec police have arrested more than a dozen accused assailants in what will one day be known as the Great Maple Syrup Heist of 2012. Officers also recovered important paraphernalia used in the production of maple syrup, and around \$18 million worth of our nation's most delicious natural resource (I believe that's street value). The province has been dealing with controversies over corruption and organized crime, but they'll be damned if they are going to sit by and let citizens endure Christmas with dry, unsavoury pancakes.

4 **Bac off.** Dollarama has pulled two brands of cleansing wipes from its shelves after tests by CBC News revealed unacceptable levels of bacteria. It's reassuring to know that all of the other products we use to rid our skin of impurities contain "acceptable" levels of bacteria.

5 **Kill me, maybe?** The votes are in, and Carly Rae Jepsen's Call Me Maybe is the song of the year. While I am pleased for our homegirl, after the millionth listen I respectfully request, for the love of God, that someone call this girl already!

6 **Fields of dreams.** The Toronto Raptors welcomed back Landry Fields, who was cleared by team doctors after undergoing elbow surgery over a month ago. The team is on a four-game winning streak, and Fields is anxious to jump in and get them back to their comfort zone.

7 **Winter wonders.** Monkeys shopping, eagles snatching babies, cows falling from trucks — it brings to mind fond memories of something my mother used to say: "If your flying baby cries over a truckload of spilled cows, no one's ever going to buy your sharp-dressed monkey." In fairness, English was not her first language.

8 **And the winner is ...** Cassadee Pope. Pope is now officially The Voice. Fans voted for The Personality as well, but to me she'll always be The Legs. Congrats, Cassadee.

9 **My favourite things.** This week in 1985, Born in the U.S.A. by Bruce Springsteen surpassed Michael Jackson's Thriller as the second-longest-lasting album on Billboard's American Top 10. It stayed there for 79 weeks. So what mega-singing sensation is powerful enough to top these two superstars for the honour of being No. 1? At 109 consecutive weeks ...

Julie Andrews with The Sound of Music. Of course it was.

Follow The Metro List on
Twitter @TheMetroList



The Sound of Music has fought off the likes of Born in the U.S.A. and Thriller in retaining the record for most consecutive weeks on Billboard's Top 10. CONTRIBUTED

May your days be merry and bright



MATT YORK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Christmas circuit

Don't get blinded by the lights

A woman walks along Natal Circle viewing Christmas lights in Gilbert, Ariz., in this photo taken earlier this month.

As Christmas decorations light up across the globe, take these precautions to avoid a holiday mishap.

- **Sparkle without the spark.** Turn off the electricity to the supply outlet before working with outdoor wiring. Unplug light strings before replacing bulbs and check to ensure replacement bulbs match the voltage and wattage of the original. To avoid a shock from damaged wire, use

insulated fasteners rather than metal nails or tacks to hold light strings in place.

- **Stay dry.** Keep electrical connectors for outdoor lights above ground, out of water, and away from metal eavestroughs. Connect outdoor lighting into receptacles protected by weatherproof ground-fault circuit interrupters (GFCI). These can provide protection from electric shock by sensing ground leakage and cutting electrical power.
- **Put your faith in the magic of the holidays but don't fall for fakes.** Avoid counterfeit electronic decorations that haven't been certified for safe use. Look for the mark from an accredited certification organization like CSA Group.

NEWS CANADA

Pales in comparison

Neighbour cops out on lights

An Arizona woman who knew she couldn't compete head-on with her neighbour's elaborate Christmas-light display is attracting attention for her response.

Using red and green lights, Kristina Green of Maricopa, Ariz., spelled out the word "ditto" and made an arrow pointing toward her neighbour's home.

KNXV-TV reports that Green's display is made of around 600 lights. Her neighbour's setup has about 16,000 colourful lights. Green has created a Facebook page for her "ditto" sign.



SCREEN GRAB

The Christmas light competition heats up for some neighbourhoods, while other neighbours go with a "ditto" sign and an arrow. SCREEN GRAB

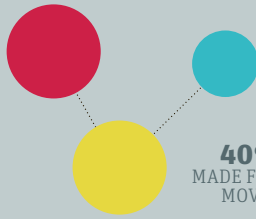
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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What's next for the Ikea monkey?

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40%
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Twitter

@LeslieSwartman: Tomorrow will be a blizzard mess, but tonight the capital looks pretty. #Ottawa #YOW pic. twitter.com/FVOhYmel

@AdsWriter: New research released today indicates the #Mayan calendar actually predicts 30 cm of snow for #Ottawa tomorrow.

@wiltgreenwood: Today I had my last shawarma be-

fore #Calgary. #ottfood #ottawa

@gngreen: #ottawa traffic "engineers" achieve a new low: 25 minutes for cars to move 300 metres in downtown by War Memorial.

@mitchaxelrad: So big deal... A major big snow-storm will allegedly hit #Ottawa tomorrow. It's not like it's the end of the world.



This is 40 sees Paul Rudd and Leslie Mann reprise their roles as the warring couple in Knocked Up. HANDOUT

Reel Guys

RICHARD
CROUSE AND
MARK BRESLIN



This is all too familiar

Biting honesty.

Judd Apatow's latest comedy pleases with its realistic take on life in middle age

Richard: Mark, after writing that synopsis, I feel it necessary to remind everyone that this is a comedy, so mixed into this study of midlife disappointment are some keenly honed and very funny observations. It's a blend of heart and humour, frequently in the same scene, and often in the same sentence. When Pete says to Debbie, "We're like Simon and Garfunkle and you turned me into Garfunkle," it's a funny line, delivered well, but also a loaded one that places his unhappiness front and centre. It's that kind of writing and performance that makes you laugh and cringe at the same time. What did you think?

Mark: It's Apatow's best movie, but not necessarily his

funniest. The comedy comes intermittently in between stretches of a married couple bickering, experiencing a financial meltdown, problems with their kids and their parents. Just like real life. But I'm not sure the very funny comedy bits redeem the rest of the movie's grim and lacerating honesty.

RC: I think Apatow is trying to get that James Brooks magical mix of funny and raw emotion. The ratio might be a bit off here, but his cast — Rudd and Mann — both bring considerable likeability and comic chops, but temper that with resentment and dissatisfaction. Mann is particularly good. A scene with a hockey player who doesn't realize she is married is funny but framed with a kind of vulnerability that elevates Debbie from stock character to believable person.

MB: I found this movie less sentimental than most of Brooks' work, but the cast does make the bitter pill seem a bit sweeter. Not just Rudd and

Mann, but the smaller parts — Albert Brooks and John Lithgow as their respective fathers, Jason Segel as the insufferable personal trainer and Apatow's own daughters as the couple's siblings, all work wonders. And two comic set pieces late in the movie — when most directors would be sprinting to the finish line — one with Charlene Yi, the other with Melissa McCarthy — are comedy gold. Your favourite funny bit?

RC: I loved everything to do with the Graham Parker storyline. As the retro rock act Rudd's character is trying to promote, Parker — who was one of my 1970s real-life punk rock heroes — gamely allows himself to be the butt of a lot of jokes, including my favourite from Chris O'Dowd, who says, "It's hard to watch a band when you know all of them were alive on D Day."

MB: Casting Parker was such an inspired choice! I hope that life will imitate art and people will get interested in his music again. But the

Synopsis

This is 40 takes place in the week between Pete and Debbie's (Paul Rudd and Leslie Mann reprising their roles from Knocked Up) 40th birthdays. Although Debbie lies about how old she is, larger problems include constantly warring kids (Maude and Iris Apatow), an empty bank account made worse by a freeloading father (Albert Brooks), an embezzling employee and relationship doubts triggered by Debbie's loaded question, "If I hadn't gotten pregnant 14 years ago, would we still be together?"

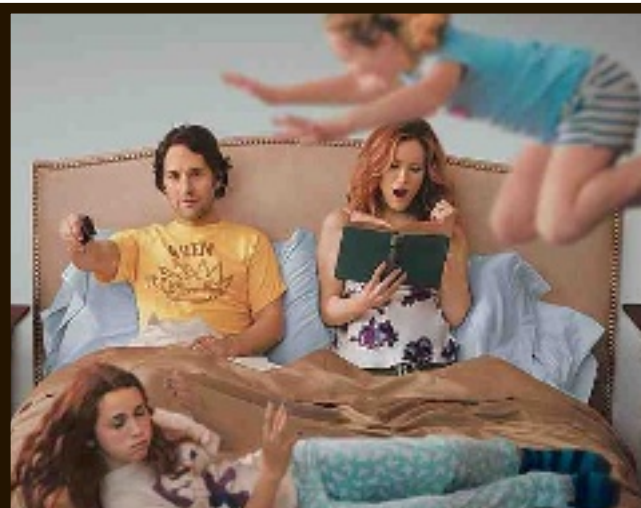
- Richard: ●●●●●
- Mark: ●●●●●

movie is full of such inspired offbeat picks. That was Tatum O'Neal as the realtor and radio talkshow hero Phil Hendrie who attacks Rudd after the bicycle crash.

2 SCENE

From writer/director JUDD APATOW

THIS IS 40



UNIVERSAL PICTURES PRESENTS AN APATOW PRODUCTION A JUDD APATOW FILM PAUL RUDD LESLIE MANN "THIS IS 40" JOHN LITHGOW
MEGAN FOX AND ALBERT BROOKS MUSIC BY JON BRION SUPERVISOR JONATHAN KARP COSTUME DESIGNER LEESA EVANS EDITED BY BRENT WHITE AGE PRODUCTION DESIGNER JEFFERSON SAGE
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY PHEDON PAPAMICHAEL ASC PRODUCED BY JUDD APATOW CLAYTON TOWNSEND BARRY MENDEL BASED ON CHARACTERS CREATED BY JUDD APATOW
COARSE LANGUAGE, SEXUAL CONTENT APATOW PRODUCTIONS SOUNDTRACK ALBUM ON CAPITOL RECORDS STARTS TODAY WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY JUDD APATOW A UNIVERSAL PICTURE UNIVERSAL
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The bad. Films that brought us to tears in 2012



Tom Cruise in a campy rock musical. Can it get any worse? HANDOUT

There are a lot of ways to qualify a bad film, which led to some entries not making this list. Some films disappoint by wasting talent and prestige, like the *Hobbit*, while others come from such uninspired origins that it seems pointless to complain about them. Then there are these 10, which are just plain bad.

Prometheus

This one might not be as objectively bad as others on the list, but it failed on a much grander scale, taking a beloved science fiction franchise, a talented cast and gorgeous cinematography and creating maddeningly thoughtless dreck. Worst of all, a film that was meant to be a prequel ends instead with a presumptuous setup for a sequel. A note to director Ridley Scott: That's not up to you.

One for the Money

This turkey kicked off the year in January and nearly held the title for year's worst the whole way through. Katherine Heigl's attempt to launch herself a franchise based on Janet Evanovich's books is clumsy, painful and plodding, inspiring contempt from its viewers.

Rock of Ages

The poppy hair metal of the 1980s — already not the most soulful music in the world — has any life drained out of it completely in this painfully campy, overlong and uneven

Rounding out the 10 worst

- American Reunion
- The Raven
- Alex Cross
- Red Dawn
- The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn — Part 2

trudge down the Sunset Strip. Alec Baldwin and Catherine Zeta-Jones just look embarrassed to be there, and Tom Cruise should be, considering his performance. This movie — storyline and all — was better last year when it was called *Burlesque*.

Savages

Oliver Stone's over-saturated, bombastic drug war fantasy is filled with overwrought melodrama, empty tough-guy posturing and an ending that is beyond frustrating. But the worst aspect of the film can be summed up in three words: Blake Lively narration.

What to Expect When You're Expecting

Basing an ensemble comedy on a pregnancy manual was probably the first mistake. The second was thinking any of the shrill and unsympathetic characters on display are at all entertaining. NED EHRBAR, MWN

Metro's 10 must-see films from the past year



NED EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

This may finally be the year that well-made big-budget studio fare finally gets some respect, a cause championed by the likes of Christopher Nolan. Which is awkward, because we were expecting more from his *Dark Knight Rises*, but he didn't quite stick the landing. If nothing else, 2012 proved to be a delightfully diverse year at the movies. Some runners up for this list include best picture front-runner *Argo*, Michael Haneke's Cannes favourite *Amour* and Quentin Tarantino's *Django Unchained*.

Cloud Atlas

A big, bold, far-reaching tale encompassing six different stories — and six very different visual and genre styles — to explore the enduring power of love and mankind's struggle for freedom. The Wachowskis and co-director Tom Tykwer packed a lot into their 172 minutes, adapting David Mitchell's gorgeous novel into something vital and engrossing.

Zero Dark Thirty

Director Kathryn Bigelow and screenwriter Mark Boal follow up their wins for the *Hurt Locker* with an even better film tracking the decade-long manhunt for Osama Bin Laden, buoyed by a performance by Jessica Chastain that should earn her a best actress Oscar. The film's greatest feat is presenting all of the facts without an ounce of politicization.

The Impossible

This true-life tale of a European family separated during the 2004 tsunami is incredibly manipulative, but it is some of the most artful, effective manipulation ever committed to film, and for that it deserves respect.

It's a harrowing, unflinching look at the struggle for survival that puts viewers through the emotional wringer.

Beasts of the Southern Wild

A startling debut with a six-year-old unknown star (Quvenzhané Wallis) and a look and feel unlike anything seen before, this charming and moving fable is a rare treasure, a visual poem with an equally enduring score co-written by director and co-writer Benh Zeitlin.

Cabin in the Woods

Joss Whedon had one of the year's biggest hits with the *Avengers* — which nearly made this list as well — but his real triumph this year comes in co-writing this sharp and hilarious deconstruction of the horror movie genre. Once the movie's real game is revealed, the film's giddy energy is infectious.

Rust and Bone

Oscar-winner Marion Cotillard turns in another striking and poignant performance as a whale trainer who loses her legs during an accident at work and rediscovers the beauty of life with the help of a down-on-his-luck bruiser of a single father (Matthais Schoenaerts).

Lincoln

Daniel Day-Lewis is of course the main attraction here, seamlessly transforming himself into the 16th president, but he shares the screen with a dizzying array of fantastic supporting performances, the best of which was Tommy Lee Jones, Lee Pace and James Spader.

Keep the Lights On

Writer-director Ira Sachs mines his own romantic past with aching honesty to tell the story of two men trying to love each other and ignore each other's addictions for nearly a decade. It's an unflinching portrayal of



Beasts of the Southern Wild. HANDOUT



Jessica Chastain's performance in Zero Dark Thirty is Oscar worthy. HANDOUT

intimacy.

olded Alexei Karenin.

Anna Karenina

Director Joe Wright and actress Keira Knightley team up for their third literary adaptation — after *Pride and Prejudice* and *Atonement* — with this gorgeous and risky translation of the Russian classic. The staging and style are mesmerizing, and Knightley shines, but the real standout here is Jude Law in a career-redefining turn as the cuck-

Skyfall

Sam Mendes leads the James Bond franchise to a new benchmark in quality just in time for its 50th anniversary, imbuing Daniel Craig's 007 with just the right amount of fun and '60s swagger. A delicious turn by Javier Bardem as the villain and Roger Deakins' gorgeous cinematography help elevate it to something even more.

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Action



Django Unchained

Director. Quentin Tarantino

Stars. Jamie Foxx, Christoph Waltz

Whatever you think of Quentin Tarantino, his movies stand out in an industry full of mediocrity. Django Unchained, the filmmaker's homage to the spaghetti western, is certainly no different — casting Jamie Foxx as the titular slave-turned-bounty hunter. Aided by a smooth-talking “dentist” (Waltz), Django strives to save his wife from a plantation owner played by Leonardo DiCaprio. Hypnotic dialogue and Tarantino's sense of retro-style keep Django smartly entertaining, albeit a bit long at 165 minutes. **STEVE GOW**

Action



Jack Reacher

Director. Christopher McQuarrie

Stars. Tom Cruise, Rosamund Pike

Tom Cruise channels the macho swagger of John Wayne and Robert Mitchum in this refreshingly unpretentious, highly entertaining mystery thriller. Cruise plays an ex-military cop who is called in to aid defense lawyer Rosamund Pike in profiling another soldier who has murdered five civilians. Of course there's more to the serpentine case than meets the eye. Jack Reacher gets an extra star for casting cult German director Werner Herzog as a reptilian psychopath. **CHRIS ALEXANDER**

Drama



Cirque du Soleil: Worlds Away

Director. Andrew Adamson

Stars. Erica Linz, Igor Zaripov

The problem with making a Cirque du Soleil movie is that the company's acrobatic shows are more spectacle than the medium of cinema truly allows. And these days, that's saying something. Worlds Away (which is a virtual “greatest hits” from seven Cirque shows) tries to thread a narrative throughout, but even that's lost amongst the thrilling stunts that are still more impressive on stage than in a 3D film. **STEVE GOW**

Musical



Les Misérables

Director. Tom Hooper

Stars. Hugh Jackman, Russell Crowe, Anne Hathaway

Chances are, if you're excited to see Les Misérables, you already know what you're in for. Based on the hugely popular stage play, this brooding musical (there are no dance numbers here, folks) stars Jackman as a reformed thief who adopts the daughter of a prostitute in the years following the French Revolution. There's no denying the grandiosity of staging and the device using actors' live vocals leads to impressive performances, but the windy one-takes are just as wearisome. **STEVE GOW**

Drama



A Late Quartet

Director. Yaron Zilberman

Stars. Philip Seymour Hoffman, Mark Ivanir, Catherine Keener and Christopher Walken

Framed by Beethoven's Opus 131 String Quartet in C-sharp minor, the film focuses on members of a world-renowned string quartet struggling with change as they enter their 25th season. Walken, the group's cellist and leader, is diagnosed with career-ending Parkinson's, and sets off a chain reaction of sexual, artistic and professional tensions pent up for 25 years. It's an odd but well-balanced tale of elite artistry and domestic melodrama. **ANNE BRODIE**

Drama/Comedy

Hyde Park on Hudson

Director. Roger Michell

Stars. Bill Murray, Laura Linney

Even Bill Murray can't quite save Hyde Park on Hudson from its mismatched intent. It's one-part quasi-romantic drama between wartime President FDR (Murray) and a distant cousin/mistress (Linney) and one-part comedy about Roosevelt's 1939 relationship-building with the King of England. **STEVE GOW**

Action

Pusher

Director. Luis Prieto

Stars. Richard Coyle, Agyness Deyn

Pusher is an English adaptation about a dope trafficker trying desperately to amend a botched transaction before a hulking Balkan drug lord busts him up. **STEVE GOW**

TIME
JOEL STEIN

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Ottawa

Bytowne Cinéma

325 Rideau St.

Cloud Atlas (14A) Wed-Thu 8:45
Hyde Park on Hudson (PG) Fri 6:55 Sat 2:30-9:15 Sun 4:20-8:50 Mon 1:45-6:10 Wed 4:20 Thu 2:15-6:40
A Late Quartet (18A) Fri 9:05 Sat 4:40-6:55 Sun 2:01-6:30 Mon 3:55-8:15 Wed 2:01-6:30 Thu 4:20
The Master (14A) Fri 3:59
No Films Showing Today (STC) Tue

Coliseum Ottawa

3090 Carling Ave.

Dabangg 2 (STC) Fri-Sun 12:20-3:30-6:45-9:40 Mon 12:20-3:30-6:45 Tue-Thu 12:20-3:30-6:45-9:40
Django Unchained (18A) Tue-Thu 11:20-3:05-6:50-10:35
The Guilt Trip (PG) Fri-Sun 12:30-3:50-8-10:30 Mon 12:30-3:50-8 Tue-Thu 12:30-3:50-8-10:30
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (PG) Fri-Sun 1:15-2-5-5:50-8:45-9:30 Mon 1:15-2-5-5:50 Tue-Thu 2:50-9:30
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 11:30-3:15-7-10:45 Mon 11:30-3:15-7 Tue-Thu 11:30-3:15-7-10:45 Fri-Sun 2:45-6:30-10:15 Mon 2:45-6:30 Tue-Thu 11-2:45-6:30-10:15
Jack Reacher (14A) Fri-Sun 1:50-4:50-7:50-11 Mon 1:50-4:50-7:50 Tue-Thu 10:55-1:50-4:50-7:50-11
Life of Pi 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 1:30-4:40-7:40-10:40 Mon 1:30-4:40-7:40
Les Misérables (PG) Tue-Thu 11:10-2:55-6:40-10:25
Monsters, Inc. 3D (G) Fri-Sun 11:40-2:10-4:45-7:20-9:50 Mon 11:40-2:10-4:45-7:20 Tue-Thu 11:40-2:10-4:45-7:20-9:50
Parental Guidance (G) Tue-Thu 12-2:40-5:20-8:05-10:40
Rise of the Guardians (G) Fri-Sun 12:10-2:40-5:10-7:45-10:05 Mon 12:10-2:40-5:10-7:45 Tue-Thu 11:10-12:10-2:40-5:10
Skyfall (PG) Fri-Sun 12:50-4:10-7:30-10:50 Mon 12:50-4:10-7:30 Tue-Thu 7:30-10:50
This Is 40 (14A) Fri-Sun 1:30-4:35-7:40-10:50 Mon 1:30-4:35-7:40 Tue-Thu 1:30-4:35-7:40-10:50
Wreck-It Ralph (PG) Fri-Thu 11:30

Empire 7 Cinemas

111 Albert St., 3rd Floor, World Exchange Plaza

Anna Karenina (14A) Fri-Mon 12-3-6-9
The Guilt Trip (PG) Fri-Thu 12:40-3:50-6:20-9:30
Hitchcock (PG) Fri-Thu 12:30-3:30-6:50-9:15
Life of Pi (PG) Fri-Thu 3:40
Life of Pi 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 12:20-6:40-9:50
Lincoln (PG) Fri-Thu 11:50-3:10-6:30-9:45
Les Misérables (PG) Tue-Thu 12-3:50-7:30 Silver Linings Playbook (14A) Tue-Thu 12:35-3:35-6:35-9:40
Skyfall (PG) Fri-Mon 11:40-3-6:20-9:40
This Is 40 (14A) Fri-Thu 12:10-3:20-6:25-9:25

Mayfair Theatre

1074 Bank St.

The Carbon Rush (STC) Fri-Sun 7
Frankenweenie (PG) Wed-Thu 3
Hotel Transylvania (PG) Wed-Thu 1
The Master (14A) Wed-Thu 9:15
No Films Showing Today (STC) Mon-Tue
Samsara (PG) Wed-Thu 7
Santa Claus Conquers the Martians (STC) Fri 11:30 Seven Psychopaths (18A) Fri 9 Sat 8:30 Sun 9 Silent Night, Deadly Night (STC) Sat 10:45

Mayfair Theatre Orleans

250 Centrum Blvd.

Argo (14A) Fri 6 Sat-Sun 12:45-6 Mon 12:45
Flight (18A) Fri-Sun 3:15-8:30 Mon 3:15
Killing Them Softly (18A) Fri-Sun 9 Mon 3:30 Tue-Thu 3:30-9
Life of Pi (PG) Fri 3:30-6:30 Sat-Sun 1-3:30-6:30 Mon 1 Tue-Thu 1-6:30
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (PG) Fri 3:45-8:45 Sat-Sun 1:15-3:45-8:45 Mon 1:15 Tue-Thu 12:45-8:45
The Well Digger's Daughter (STC) Fri-Sun 6:15 Mon 3:45 Tue-Thu 6:15

Rainbow Cinemas

St. Laurent Centre, 1200 St. Laurent Blvd.

Argo (14A) Fri 10:40-1:15-6:30 Sat 1:15-6:30 Sun 10:40-1:15-6:30 Mon 10:40-1:15 Wed-Thu 10:40-1:15-6:30
Arthur Christmas (G) Sat 11
Cloud Atlas (14A) Fri-Sun 10:20-4:40 Mon 10:20 Wed-Thu 10:20-4:40
Flight (18A) Fri-Sun 1:45-8 Mon 1:45 Wed-Thu 1:45-8
Here Comes the Boom (PG) Fri-Sun 4-9 Mon 4 Wed-Thu 4-9
Hotel Transylvania (PG) Fri-Mon 10:10-12:20-2:40-4:30 Wed-Thu 10:10-12:20-2:40-4:30
Ice Age: Continental Drift (PG) Fri-Mon 12:30-2:45-5 Wed-Thu 12:30-2:45-5
Killing Them Softly (18A) Fri-Sun 12:10-4:25-9:10 Mon 12:10-4:25 Wed-Thu 12:10-4:25-9:10
No Films Showing Today (STC) Tue
Pitch Perfect (PG) Fri-Sun 10-2:10-6:40 Mon 10-2:10 Wed-Thu 10-2:10-6:40
Red Dawn (PG) Fri-Sun 10:30-7-9:15 Mon 10:30 Wed-Thu 10:30-7-9:15
Taken 2 (14A) Fri-Sun 6:50-8:55 Wed-Thu 6:50-8:55

Rideau Centre Cinemas

50 Rideau St.

Django Unchained (18A) , Tue 6:10-9:40 , Wed-Thu 12:40-4:40-8:40
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (PG) , Fri-Sun 3-7 Mon 2 Wed-Thu 12:30
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 12:30-4:30-8:30 Mon 12:15-4 Tue 6-9:30 Wed-Thu 4:30-8:30
Jack Reacher (14A) , Fri-Sun 12:15-3:10-6:10-9:05 , Mon 12:30-3:35 , Tue 6:20-9:15 , Wed-Thu 12:15-3:10-6:10-9:05

South Keys

2214 Bank St.

Django Unchained (18A) Tue 2:20-6:05-9:40 Wed-Thu 10:40-2:20-6:05-9:40
Elf (G) Sat 11
The Guilt Trip (PG) Fri-Sun 11:45-2:15-4:45-7:15-9:45 Mon 11:45-2:15-4:45-7:15

Tue 2:15-4:45-7:15-9:45 Wed-Thu 11:45-2:15-4:45-7:15-9:45
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (PG) Fri 10-12:45-1:30-4:30-5:15-8:15-9 Sat 10-1-1:30-4:30-5:15-8:15-9 Sun 10-12:45-1:30-4:30-5:15-8:15-9 Mon 10-12:45-1:30-4:30-5:15 Tue-Thu 12:30-4:15-8
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 10:30-10:45-2-2:30-5:45-6:15-9:30-10 Mon 10:30-10:45-2-2:30-5:45-6:15-9:30-10
Jack Reacher (14A) Fri-Sun 10:15-1:10-4:10-7:10-10:15 Mon 10:15-1:10-4:10-7:10 Tue 1:10-4:10-7:10-10:15 Wed-Thu 10:15-1:10-4:10-7:10-10:15
Life of Pi 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 10:20-1:15-4:05-7-9:55 Mon 10:20-1:15-4:05-7 Tue-Thu 6:20-9:20
Les Misérables (PG) Tue 2:10-6-9:40 Wed-Thu 10:25-2:10-6-9:40
Monsters, Inc. 3D (G) Fri-Sun 10:10-12:30-2:50-5:10-7:25-9:50 Mon 10:10-12:30-2:50-5:10-7:25 Tue 12:30-2:50-5:10-7:25-9:50 Wed-Thu 10:10-12:30-2:50-5:10-7:25-9:50
Parental Guidance (G) Tue 1:55-4:35-7:20-9:55 Wed-Thu 11:15-1:55-4:35-7:20-9:55
Rise of the Guardians (G) Fri 10:05-10:35-12:50-3:10-5:30-7:50-10:10 Sat 10:35-12:50-3:10-5:30-7:50-10:10 Sun 10:05-10:35-12:50-3:10-5:30-7:50-10:10 Mon 10:05-10:35-12:50-3:10-5:20-7:30 Tue 1:20 Wed-Thu 10:05-11-1:20
Rise of the Guardians 3D (G) Tue-Thu 3:40 Royal Opera House: The Nutcracker (STC) Sat 12:55
Skyfall (PG) Fri-Sun 3:05-6:30-9:35 Mon 3:05-6:30 Tue-Thu 3:05-6:30-9:35
This Is 40 (14A) Fri-Sun 10-12:55-3:55-6:55-10:05 Mon 10-12:55-3:55-6:55 Tue 12:55-3:55-6:55-10:05 Wed-Thu 10-12:55-3:55-6:55-10:05
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (PG) Fri 10:25-1:05-3:50-6:35-9:20 Sat 10:10-4-6:35-9:20 Sun 10:25-1:05-3:50-6:35-9:20 Mon 10:25-1:05-3:50-6:35 Wreck-It Ralph (PG) Fri-Mon 10:05-12:35 Tue 12:35 Wed-Thu 10:05-12:35

Gatineau

Cinéma des Galeries d'Aylmer

400 boul. Wilfrid-Lavigne

The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (G) Fri-Sun 3:10-9:10 Wed-Thu 3:10-9:10
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (G) Fri-Sun 12:30-6:30 Mon-Tue 1:20 Wed-Thu 12:30-6:30
Jack Reacher (13+) Fri-Sun 12:50-3:30-6:50-9:30 Mon-Tue 12:50-3:30 Wed-Thu 12:50-3:30-6:50-9:30
Les Misérables (G) Tue 1:15 Wed-Thu 12:40-3:40-6:40-9:40
Les Pee Wee 3D: L'hiver qui a changé ma vie (G) Fri-Sun 3:45-9:45 Mon-Tue 3:45 Wed-Thu 3:45-9:45
Les Pee Wee: L'hiver qui a changé ma vie (G) Fri-Sun 12:40-6:40 Mon-Tue 12:40 Wed-Thu 12:40-6:40
Rise of the Guardians (G) Fri-Mon 1 Le réveil des gardiens (G) Fri-Mon 3:20 Skyfall (13+) Fri-Sun 6:40-9:30

Ciné-starz

1100 boul. Maloney Ouest

Activité paranormale 4 (13+) Fri-Sun 9:20 Wed-Thu 9:20 , Hotel Transylvanie (G) Fri-Sun 12-1:40-3:20-6:45 Mon 12-1:40-3:20 Wed-Thu 12-1:40-3:20-6:45
L'amour en jeu (G) Fri-Sun 5:15-7:10-9:05 Mon 5:15 Wed-Thu 5:15-7:10-9:05
L'aube rouge (13+) Fri-Sun 7:25-9:05 Wed-Thu 7:25-9:05, Enlèvement 2 (13+) Fri-Sun 5-8:30 Mon 5 Wed-Thu 5-8:30
L'ère de glace: La dérive des continents (G) Fri-Mon 12-1:40-3:20-5:45 Wed-Thu 12-1:40-3:20-5:45
Les mondes de Ralph (STC) Fri-Sun 12-1:55-3:50-7:25 Mon 12-1:55-3:50 Wed-Thu 12-1:55-3:50-7:25
No Films Showing Today (STC) Tue
Rebelle (STC) Fri-Mon 12-1:45-3:30 Wed-Thu 12-1:45-3:30
Vol (13+) Fri-Mon 5 Wed-Thu 5

Gatineau 9

120 boul. de l'Hôpital

007: Skyfall (13+) Fri-Sun 3:10-9 Mon 3:10 Tue-Thu 7:10
Le hobbit : Un voyage inattendu 3D (G) Fri-Sun 12-12:45-3:30-4:30-7:15-8:15 Mon 12-12:45-3:30-4:30 Tue-Thu 2-6
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (G) Fri-Sun 12:20-3:50-7:30 Mon 12:20-3:50 Tue-Thu 2:15-6
Jack Reacher (13+) Fri-Sun 12:15-3-7:05-9:50 Mon 12:15-3 Tue-Thu 3-7:05 Fri-Sun 6:45-9:35 Mon 2:30 Tue-Thu 6:45
L'histoire de Pi (G) Fri-Sun 12:40-3:25-6:45-9:30 Mon 12:40-3:25
L'histoire de Pi 3D (G) Tue-Thu 3:15
Les Misérables (G) Tue-Thu 2:30-6:30
Les Pee Wee 3D: L'hiver qui a changé ma vie (G) Fri-Sun 1:10-4-7:10-9:45 Mon 1:10-4 Tue-Thu 4-7:10
La saga Twilight: Révélation - partie 2 (STC) Fri-Sun 1:15-3:45-6:50-9:25 Mon 1:15-3:45
Surveillance parentale (G) Tue-Thu 4:30-7

StarCité Hull

115 boul. du Plateau

007: Skyfall (13+) Fri-Sun 1:10-4:15-7:20-10:25 Mon 1:10-4:15-7:20
Django déchainé (13+) Tue-Thu 1:40-5:20-9
Django Unchained (13+) Tue-Thu 11:45-3:20-7-10:35
Elf (G) Sat 11
The Guilt Trip (G) Fri-Sun 12:30-3-5:30-8-10:30 Mon 12:30-3-5:30-8 Tue-Thu 12:30-3-5:30-8-10:30
Le hobbit : Un voyage inattendu (G) Fri-Sun 12:15-3:50-7:25-11 Mon 12:15-3:50-7:25 Tue-Thu 12:15-3:50-7:25-11
Le hobbit : Un voyage inattendu 3D (G) Fri-Sun 11:15-3-6:45-10:30 Mon 11:15-3-6:45 Tue-Thu 11:15-3-6:45-10:30
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (G) Fri-Sun 11-2:45-6:30-10:15 Mon 11-2:45-6:30 Tue-Thu 11-2:45-6:30-10:15
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (G) Fri-Sun 11:30-3:15-7-10:45 Mon 11:30-3:15-7 Tue-Thu 11:30-3:15-7-10:45
Jack Reacher (13+) Fri-Sun 1:50-4:50-7:50-11 Mon 1:50-4:50-7:50 Tue-Thu 1:50-4:50-7:50-11
Life of Pi (G) Fri-Sun 1:35-4:35-7:35-10:35

Mon 1:35-4:35-7:35 Tue-Thu 7:35-10:35 Lincoln (G) Fri-Sun 12:30-3:45-7-10:15 Mon 12:30-3:45-7
Le Lutin - Les Films en Famille (STC) Sat 11 , Les Misérables (G) Tue-Thu 11:40-3:10-6:40-10:10
Les mondes de Ralph (STC) Fri-Thu 1:20 Monstres, Inc. 3D (G) Fri-Sun 11:50-2:20-4:50-7:20-9:50 Mon 11:50-2:20-4:50-7:20 Tue-Thu 11:50-2:20-4:50-7:20-9:50
Parental Guidance (G) Tue-Thu 12-2:40-5:20-8:05-10:40
Les Pee Wee 3D: L'hiver qui a changé ma vie (G) Fri-Sun 11:30-2:15-5-7:45-10:30 Mon 11:30-2:15-5-7:45 Tue-Thu 11:30-2:15-5-7:45-10:30
Les Pee Wee: L'hiver qui a changé ma vie (G) Fri-Thu 11-1:45-4:30
Le réveil des gardiens (G) Fri-Sun 12:10-2:40-5:10-7:35-10 Mon 12:10-2:40-5:10-7:35 Tue-Thu 12:10-2:40-5:10 Skyfall (13+) Fri-Sun 3:55-7-10:05 Mon 3:55-7 Tue-Thu 3:55-7-10:05
This Is 40 (13+) Fri-Sun 1:30-4:35-7:40-10:50 Mon 1:30-4:35-7:40 Tue-Thu 1:30-4:35-7:40-10:50
The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (STC) Fri-Sun 7:15-10 Mon 7:15 Tue-Thu 7:15-10 Ésimésac (G) Fri-Sun 12:15-2:45-5:15-7:45-10:15 Mon 12:15-2:45-5:15-7:45 Tue-Thu 11:10

Barrhaven

Barrhaven Cinemas

131 Riocan Dr.

Django Unchained (18A) Tue 3:05-6:50-10:35 Wed-Thu 11:20-3:05-6:50-10:35
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (PG) Fri 6:30-10:15 Sat-Sun 2:45-6:30-10:15 Mon 2:45-6:30 Tue-Thu 2:45-6:30-10:15
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (PG) Fri 7-10:45 Sat-Sun 11:30-3:15-7-10:45 Mon 11:30-3:15-7 Tue 3:15-7-10:45 Wed-Thu 11:30-3:15-7-10:45
Jack Reacher (14A) Fri 7:50-11 Sat-Sun 1:50-4:50-7:50-11 Mon 1:50-4:50-7:50 Tue 4:50-7:50-11 Wed-Thu 10:55-1:50-4:50-7:50-11
Life of Pi 3D (PG) Fri 7:05-10:10 Sat-Sun 1-4-7:05-10:10 Mon 1-4-7:05
Les Misérables (PG) Tue 2:55-6:40-10:25 Wed-Thu 11:10-2:55-6:40-10:25
Monsters, Inc. 3D (G) Fri 7:20-9:50 Sat-Sun 11:40-2:10-4:45-7:20-9:50 Mon 11:40-2:10-4:45-7:20-9:50
Parental Guidance (G) Tue 2:40-5:20-8:05-10:40 Wed-Thu 12-2:40-5:20-8:05-10:40
Rise of the Guardians (G) Sat-Mon 11:50-2:20 Wed-Thu 12:15
Rise of the Guardians 3D (G) Fri 7:15-9:45 Sat-Sun 4:40-7:15-9:45 Mon 4:40-7:15
Skyfall (PG) Fri-Sun 7-10:20 Mon 7
Wreck-It Ralph (PG) Sat-Mon 1:30-4:20

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Cirque du Soleil: Worlds Away 3D (G) Fri-Mon 1-7 Tue-Thu 11:05-1:45-4:20-7:25-10:10
Django Unchained (18A) Tue-Thu 11:20-

3:05-6:50-10:35
Elf (G) Sat 11 , The Guilt Trip (PG) Fri-Thu 12:55-3:25-5:45-8:25-10:55
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (PG) Fri 12-2-3:45-5:50-7:30-9:30-11:10 Sat 12-3:45-5:50-7:30-9:30-11:10 Sun-Mon 12-2-3:45-5:50-7:30-9:30-11:10 Tue-Thu 2-5:50-9:30
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey — An IMAX 3D Experience (PG) Fri-Thu 11:30-3:15-7-10:45
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 1:25-5-8:45 Fri-Thu 11-2:45-6:30-10:15
Jack Reacher (14A) Fri-Thu 10:55-1:50-4:50-7:50-11
Life of Pi (PG) Fri-Thu 1:35-4:30-7:35-10:20, Lincoln (PG) Fri-Mon 12:30-3:50-7:15-10:30 , Les Misérables (PG) Tue-Thu 11:25-1:20-2:55-4:55-6:40-8:30-10:20
Monsters, Inc. 3D (G) Fri-Thu 10:55-11:40-2:10-4:45-7:20-9:50
Parental Guidance (G) Tue-Thu 12-2:40-5:20-8:05-10:40
Playing for Keeps (PG) Fri-Mon 3:55-10:10
Rise of the Guardians (G) Fri-Mon 11:15-1:30-4-7:05-9:20 Tue-Thu 11:15
Royal Opera House: The Nutcracker (STC) Sat 12:55
Silver Linings Playbook (14A) Fri-Thu 11:10-2:05-5:05-7:45-10:25
Skyfall (PG) Fri-Thu 12:25-3:40-7:10-10:30 . This Is 40 (14A) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:35-7:40-10:50 , The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (PG) Fri-Mon 11:35-2:20-5:10-8-10:50
Wreck-It Ralph (PG) Fri 11:20 Sun-Mon 11:20 Tue-Thu 11:05

Orleans

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Django Unchained (18A) , Tue 6-9:50 , Wed-Thu 2-6-9:50
The Guilt Trip (PG) , Fri-Sun 1-3:40-6:20-9 , Mon 1-3:40-6:20 , Tue 3:10-6:20-9:15 , Wed-Thu 12:45-3:10-6:20-9:15
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (PG) , Fri-Sun 12-4-9 , Mon 12-4 , Tue 3:30-9 , Wed-Thu 11:30-3:30-9
The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey 3D (PG) , Fri-Sun 11:30-2-3:30-6-7:30-9:45 , Mon 11:30-2-3:30-6 Tue 4:15-8 Wed-Thu 12-4:15-8 , Fri-Sun 12:30-4:30-8:30 , Mon 12:30-6:30
Jack Reacher (14A) , Fri-Sun 12:45-3:50-7-10 , Mon 12:45-3:50-7 , Tue 3:20-6:45-10:20 , Wed-Thu 12:15-3:20-6:45-10:20
Life of Pi 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 8:45
Les Misérables (PG) , Tue 4-8:30 , , Wed-Thu 12:30-4-8:30
Monsters, Inc. 3D (G) Fri-Sun 1:10-4:15-6:45-9:15 Mon 1:10-4:15-6:45 Tue 4:20-7-9:30 Wed-Thu 1:30-4:20-7-9:30
Parental Guidance (G) , Tue 4:30-7:15-10:10 , Wed-Thu 1:15-4:30-7:15-10:10
Rise of the Guardians (G) , Fri-Mon 12:15-3:20-6:10 , Tue 3:45 , Wed-Thu 1-3:45
Skyfall (PG) , Fri-Sun 11:50-3-8 , Mon 11:50-3-6:15 , Tue-Thu 6:15-10
This Is 40 (14A) , Fri-Sun 11:40-3:10-6:30-9:30 , Mon 11:40-3:10-6:30 , Tue 3-6:30-9:40 , Wed-Thu 11:45-3-6:30-9:40

TV picks



The Sound of Music airs Sunday on CTV and ABC. HANDOUT

End of the world as we know it?

Some have predicted the apocalypse will strike Friday, and there's some fitting viewing in 2012, like *The End is Now* (History) and *Evacuate Earth* (National Geographic Channel). Darker material is also found in a new episode of *Haven*, which is followed by the Season 3 finale on Showcase.

For the most part, though, the channels are putting out a feel-good vibe with several holiday specials on Friday. Karate Kid headliner Ralph Macchio builds on his *Dancing with the Stars* experience in the CTV Vancouver-shot dance film *Holiday Spin*. Vancouver's Allie Bertram (*So You Think You Can Dance Canada*) co-stars. In the comedy vein is *A Christmas Story* (CBC) and *A Russell Peters Christmas* (CTV). For a crooner-carolling vibe, click to Michael Bublé: *Home for the Holidays* (Citytv, NBC). And for inspiration on how to cook your yuletide meal, there's *Chef at Home* holiday edition and *French Food at Home* holiday edition (Food Network Canada).

Deck the Halls

Think you've decked your halls in enviable fashion? You may be humbled by a marathon of *Celebrity Holi-*

day Homes, in which three designers create festive decor for the stars on Saturday. Participants include soap star-turned *The Biggest Loser* host Ali Sweeney, country music artist Jo Dee Messina, game show host Wayne Brady, singer Jordin Sparks and Twisted Sister rocker Dee Snider (HGTV Canada).

Family favourite

Some mirthful holiday programs are repeated ad nauseam at this time of year, but the five-time Oscar-winning *The Sound of Music* typically isn't one of them. And besides, it's always worth the click to see a dashing Christopher Plummer and hear the dulcet tones of Julie Andrews, who recently admitted that her famous voice has been ruined by an operation to remove non-cancerous throat nodules. It airs Sunday (CTV, ABC).

A Bourdain bonanza

It's a collaboration of cantankerous minds as Sean Penn is featured on the top-notch travel series *Anthony Bourdain: No Reservations* on Sunday. The famously testy twosome meet up in Haiti, where Penn has helped with relief efforts after the earthquake of 2010 (Discovery World HD).

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Life as they knew it changed, for good

Bomb Girls. Meg Tilly talks about her role as a floor supervisor at Ontario's Victory Munitions during WWII, and how female perspectives were forever altered

ANNE BRODIE

scene@metronews.ca

The Second World War brought Canadian women out of the home and into the workforce. Thousands were employed in an Ontario munitions factory, helping in the war effort, earning their own pay cheques and standing on their own two feet as their men fought overseas. *Bomb Girls*, starting season two Jan. 4 ET/PT at 8 p.m., continues as they navigate life at Victory Munitions and on the home front. Meg Tilly plays Lorna the floor supervisor:

Lorna's a great leader. She's stoic, efficient and level-headed. But her home life is unstable.

That's what I love about her. Everybody has light and dark and joys and sorrows and they're all intermingled. There is no good one or bad one. We finished season one with her pregnant and pregnant women aren't allowed to work on the line. Lorna has always been a by-the-rules person and the whole situation changes her. In season two, because of this, she's not so rigid. She's broken several rules. She did things that were wrong if you're going to go black and white. I think she's got more compassion

and sees more shades of grey. That's a shift.

How did the work change women?

It contributed to the feminist movement. All these capable women who were underutilized found themselves out there doing useful things. Usually women would be born in a town, be raised in the town, marry and die in the town. And all of a sudden women made decisions. They came from all over the country to work in the plant. It's really important to show the change that happened with women. Everything changed, that's what (*The Second World War*) was to us. The focus is usually on the sacrifices of the men, but now we see the women and how they changed our country and how they effected change. And now I see that time so differently. I think back to my grandparents. I wish they were alive now so I could talk to them about what their experiences were like. People are lucky if they still have people alive who can talk about it. It wasn't that long ago.

What happened to the women after the war?

That was a shock. Those were the dark years, some of them call it. All of a sudden it was over. And the men came home and it was changed. And everyone's trying to pretend it was exactly the way it was before the war and it wasn't. Everyone was dealing with this huge shift and women lost loved ones, fathers, brothers, lovers, husbands and they're dealing with other loss, loss of identity and self. They worked and grew and bloomed and felt useful for something other than baby rearing and



Meg Tilly plays Lorna, the floor supervisor, in Global's *Bomb Girls*. HANDOUT

cleaning the house, and then suddenly they had to ask for permission to buy a hat. I remember seeing interviews from this one woman. She said it only takes so long to clean the house. You're working hard, and then it's gone. And the woman said, "Until I had my baby, those were the dark years."

***Bomb Girls* is topical, with references to events in Oshawa or the possibility of Nazi planes flying over Canada.**

I didn't know how close we came to ... I didn't know. The storylines are amazing. I read (*Second World War*) tweets every day — 3,000 killed in bombing in England and you see photos of the streets and think, "Wow, how is it possible?" I didn't realize the extent of what happened. You read Hitler meets with so and so. Hitler says he's not invading anyone, and then he invades.

There were Nazi prison camps in Canada?

I know. I didn't know that. And that's in the show.

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Could it be boiling-over drama on Downton Abbey this season?

Interview. Downton's cook weighs in on life on set and gives us a taste of how things may pan out for the Crawley family and their minions in the third season

STEPHEN
ERAMO
scene@metronews.ca

In 2010, a British-American period TV drama called Downton Abbey took the world by storm. Three seasons later, fans still eagerly tune in to watch the latest goings-on in the lives of the aristocratic Crawley family and their servants, all of whom live together in the fictional Yorkshire country estate of Downton Abbey.

Keeping everyone well-fed is Downton's cook, Mrs. Beryl Patmore, played by the lovely and talented Lesley Nicol. Although it was two years ago, she will not soon forget her first time stepping foot into Downton as Mrs. Patmore.

"I should explain that all my scenes are shot at Ealing Film Studios in London," says Nicol. "The kitchen, the servants' quarters and hall, and the corridors are all sets at Ealing, and then an hour away is Highclere Castle (which plays as Downton Abbey). They shoot all the upstairs scenes there, and because Mrs. Patmore, for legitimate reasons, doesn't stray far from her kitchen, I rarely get to Highclere.

"So for me to film a scene in the library with Hugh Bonneville (the Earl of Grantham) was quite extraordinary, not only because it's such an amazing room and building, but also to watch my character go from the safety of her kitchen to be with her boss, who she hardly knows and is scared of. That was very memorable for me and great fun, too."

A skilled cook who knows her way around a kitchen, Mrs. Patmore can sometimes be a bit bossy, especially with the younger staff. She means well, though, and Nicol has been able to show viewers that along with other facets of her character.

"What's brilliant about (series creator/executive producer/writer) Julian Fellowes is that he gives



Lesley Nicol plays Mrs. Beryl Patmore, Downton's sometimes bossy cook. CARNIVAL FILM & TELEVISION LIMITED 2012 FOR MASTERPIECE

Quoted

"Although I can't speak in detail, I can say that in season three, you'll see much more of Mrs. Patmore and Mrs. Hughes banding together ... which was wonderful to investigate."

Lesley Nicol

you one aspect of a character, and then because of circumstances you see another side," says the actress. "So when, for instance, we find out about Mrs. Patmore's nephew, who was apparently shot for cowardice (in the military), that opens up

a whole other seam of her life and reveals a very vulnerable woman.

"Although I can't speak in detail, I can say that in season three, you'll see much more of Mrs. Patmore and Mrs. Hughes (Phyllis Logan) banding together rather than opposed to each other, which was also wonderful to investigate."

With Downton Abbey renewed for a fourth season, Nicol will once again be reprising her role of Mrs. Patmore, and that suits her just fine. "It's a lovely job and I feel very blessed to be in it," she enthuses.

DOWNTON ABBEY SEASON THREE PREMIERES JAN. 6 ON MASTERPIECE ON PBS. ALL THREE SEASONS BEGIN AIRING ON VISIONTV ON JAN. 2 AT 9 P.M. ET/6 P.M. PT

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Maintaining the voice that made his career

Italian tenor. Andrea Bocelli talks about his new album, ignoring the luxury items in life and his belief in the goodness of people

AMANDA QUEIRÓS
Metro World News

The Italian tenor who gave a pop touch to classical music confesses his love for opera, soccer and good food and explains how he keeps his voice and his popularity worldwide

At the age of 54, the Italian tenor Andrea Bocelli reaps impressive numbers for an opera singer. On Jan. 29, he releases *Passione*, in which he sings in six languages.

He spoke to Metro about the mix between popular and classic music that made him famous across the world.

Why have you decided to merge classical and popular music?

Actually, I try to split them up. Classical music and pop are two different universes, each with its own difficul-



Andrea Bocelli credits his vocal success to cutting out the luxurious things in life. GETTY IMAGES

ties, peculiarities, depth and artistic dignity.

Of course, in presentations in arenas, I try to sing classical music to propagate it better.

What are the sacrifices demanded by your career?

The most difficult in my profession has always been the separation of those who I love. In regards to that, I especially think about my parents and how brave they were to teach me how to be brave by sending me to study far from home when I was still a boy so I could have a better life later.

How do you preserve your voice?

I never stop trying to perfect the technique. This lesson I learned from my friend and great tenor Luciano Pavarotti. He taught me to sing effortlessly and give the best of myself — something essential, or otherwise there would be no more singing at my age. I follow a strict diet before tours and opera seasons, having an almost monastic life, forgetting wine, coffee, pasta and other important joys of life.

The opera singer in general is a gourmand and refuses to be limited — and I'm no exception. But one problem is the reflux, almost a "working disease" of singers, which requires me to be more careful at the table.

Have yourself a merry little (and slightly odd) Christmas



SOUND CHECK
Alan Cross
scene@metronews.ca

Assuming the world doesn't end, we're still scheduled to have Christmas. Here are three more holiday songs that are a little out of the ordinary

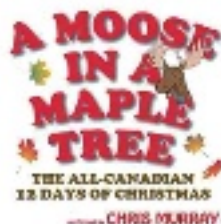


We Three Kings/Cai.ro

An interesting orchestral version of the carol based on everyone's 10th century Duke of Bohemia. Good for Fleet Foxes fans.

The 12 Days of Christmas/Chris Murray

From *A Moose in a Maple Tree*, which also includes tracks from Tegan & Sara and Johnny Bower. Yes, him.



Santa's Doing the Horizontal Twist/Kay Martin and the Body Guards

A risqué Vegas nightclub act released this on their 1962 album, *I Know What He Wants for Christmas...But I Don't Know How to Wrap It!*

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*Details in store

The hardest working man in music

David Guetta. Today's most popular DJ talks about the benefits and drawbacks of the Internet and gives us his ultimate playlist

RICHARD PECKETT

Metro World News

David Guetta, one of the most worked with musicians today, spoke to Metro about working with Will.i.am, the social networking revolution and who are the most talented DJs of today.

How would you describe your relationship with Will.i.am?

He's a friend. We've known each other since I produced I Gotta Feeling and anything that he comes out with is always genius, so I kind of trust him with closed eyes.

What's he like to work with?

He's like a bit of a crazy scientist who has difficulty in only doing one thing at a time.

We just open the mics up and he doesn't write any-



Call him popular, or today's 'it' feature guy, but however you say it, David Guetta is in high demand. HANDOUT

thing — it just comes out of him — and it's impressive to see that. He's a party guy and that's my life.

What do you think of the i.am+ and social networking?

You know, I started organizing raves when I was very young and it was against the law. Radio and TV were not playing our music in France and the only way to have

events and DJ was to keep tight with the people who were from the scene. It was text messages, phone numbers, flyers, stuff like this, you know.

So now of course with technology, it's evolving, but it's the same principle, only it's not just my city, but the world. Literally anything that allows me to share my passion and get closer to the fans is great.

So you think that the Internet and YouTube are a positive for the industry?

Amazing, absolutely. It's made music so democratic because it's cheap to produce music to a professional quality and you can also market it through a laptop. Nowadays, it's about creativity, the music itself and it's not like the head of the record company, the head of a TV channel and the head of a

David Guetta's ultimate NYE playlist

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 David Guetta ft Taped Rai. Just One Last Time (Extended Mix) (What A Music) | 6 Thomas Gold. MIAO (Fly Eye) |
| 2 Ludacris ft Usher & David Guetta. Rest Of My Life (Extended Mix Edit) (Def Jam) | 7 Daddy's Groove. Turn The Lights Down (David Guetta Re-Work) (Jack Back) |
| 3 Rihanna ft David Guetta. Right Now (Def Jam) | 8 Chuckie & Junxterjack. Make Some Noise (Cr2/Big Beat) |
| 4 Alesso. Clash (Refune) | 9 Tony Romera. Pandor (Protocol) |
| 5 David Guetta & Nicky Romero. Metropolis (Jack Back) | 10 David Guetta ft Ne-Yo & Akon. Play Hard (Edit) (What A Music) |

radio channel are going to sit down over lunch and decide who's the next star.

Do you think that there are more talented DJs today?

I don't think that there are more talented people around now but there are more opportunities for them to expose their ability. Talent is about continual good ideas and a career. It's way more competitive. Everything is so fast. It's easier to rise and also quicker

to fall.

You played to 3 million people last year on Copacabana Beach in Rio de Janeiro. Do you prefer bigger venues?

Not necessarily, I love both. I really love playing Pacha in Ibiza, but now those kind of venues are a little small for me. This New Year, I'm going to play Mamita's Beach, Playa del Carmen in Mexico, which isn't as big but I love Latin and South America.



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OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES



Kristen Stewart and Robert Pattinson

Stewart and Pattinson host Christmas party

Kristen Stewart and Robert Pattinson are reportedly getting pretty domestic, even going so far as to host a small Christmas party for their friends, according to Hollywood Life. "Kristen and Rob had a small, intimate Christmas tree decorating party on Sunday. They have a gorgeous tree set

up at Kristen's, where Rob pretty much lives now," a source says. "They are not living with each other, but they are spending plenty of time with each other and they do sleep over often. They are in a really magical place right now despite some lingering trust issues on Rob's side."

Danes welcomes baby Cyrus

Homeland star Claire Danes and husband Hugh Dancy welcomed their first child, a son, this week, her rep confirms to People magazine. Cyrus Christopher Dancy was born Monday "exactly at 3 p.m.," Dancy

reportedly told friends and family in an email, according to Page Six. "Mother and baby are well, healthy and happy." Danes and Dancy first met filming Evening in 2006 and married in 2009.

The Word



The weirdest celebrity hookups of 2012



THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

Rosario Dawson and Danny Boyle

A 22-year age difference hasn't stopped director Danny Boyle and actress Rosario Dawson from "canoodling" all over London, per the brilliant and descriptive London press. The May/December romance apparently bloomed on the set of their new movie Trance. Was it the Olympics' bizarre opening ceremony that took Dawson's heart?

Simon Cowell and Carmen Electra

The rumours are kind of true: "She's not my girlfriend," Cowell, 53, explained when he called in to On Air with Ryan Seacrest yesterday about the rumours between the two stars. "We're people who date." How very "bro" of you, Simon.

Avril Lavigne and Chad Kroeger

To the surprise of most, the singers got engaged this year after quietly dating for six months, Lavigne's rep confirmed to People magazine. "A romantic relationship blossomed as they spent time writing together," the rep says. This will be the Canadian singer's second marriage after splitting from Sum 41 frontman Deryck Whibley in 2009. Kroeger "makes her so happy," a source tells the magazine. "Both of their families could not be more excited."

Bobbi Kristina Brown and her "adopted brother"

It was announced on the reality show, The Hustons: On Our Own that Bobbi Kristina Brown and Nick Gordon, who lived with Whitney Houston from the time he was 12, are indeed engaged. Of course, Gordon was never officially adopted by Houston and he isn't blood-related to Bobbi Kristina, but the pseudo-siblings have referred to each other as "brother" and "sister," which, you know, gives us the willies.



Johnny Depp

She's just not that into you

Newly single Johnny Depp is reportedly hung up on his Rum Diary co-star, Amber Heard.

The only problem is the feeling isn't exactly mutual, according to Radar Online. "Johnny and Amber have been having a lot of fun spending time with one another, but Amber keeps

telling him she's not interested in being with him in a monogamous relationship," a source says.

"She says she feels she's too young for him, but the main factor is Amber prefers dating women over men and has no interest in committing to a guy — even if he is Johnny Depp."

Twitter



@JuddApatow

Five percent battery left on my iPhone. I shall tweet till it runs out of gas. So nervous about the release of the movie. Sleep? Ha!



@Sethrogen

Normally, talk shows are very scripted. Tonight, Letterman didn't ask me any of the pre determined questions. It was terrifying.

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Santa's cookies 2.0

Chocolate Shortbread Melt-Aways



This recipe makes five dozen small cookies. DAN CLAPSON

These cookies have a chocolate intensity that balances with their buttery richness, and when piped onto a baking tray, they look like chocolate kisses. They are a good addition to a holiday cookie tin.

- 1 cup (250 ml) unsalted butter, at room temperature
- 1 cup (250 ml) icing sugar, sifted
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) vanilla extract
- 1 1/2 cups (375 ml) all-purpose flour
- 1/3 cup (80 ml) Dutch process cocoa powder, sifted
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) cornstarch
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) salt

1. Preheat the oven to 325 F (160 C) and line 2 baking trays with parchment paper.

2. Cream the butter and icing sugar together until smooth. Beat in the vanilla extract.

3. Add the flour, cocoa, cornstarch, and salt, and beat until evenly incorporated.

4. Spoon the soft cookie dough into a piping bag fitted with a large plain tip, and pipe 1-inch (2.5 cm) "kisses" onto the baking trays, leaving a 2-inch (5 cm) space between the cookies.

5. Bake the cookies for 12 to 14 minutes, until they lift away from the parchment paper without sticking. Let the cookies cool completely on the tray before removing. The cookies will keep in an airtight container for up to 3 days. **FROM ANNA OLSON'S BACK TO BAKING**

Holiday baking. As the undisputed queen of sweets, Anna Olson knows a thing or two about delicious treats

DAN CLAPSON
life@metronews.ca

Whether it's gingerbread, yule logs or some shortbread, with the holiday season comes the sweet smell of desserts in the air.

Food Network personality Anna Olson took some time out of her busy baking schedule to chat about what she's whipping up for the holidays. And, no surprise, she is as sweet as sugar!

What's the first memory you have of baking over the holidays?

Making Cherry Walnut Ice-box cookies with my grandma.

I still make these cookies each year. It's not Christmas without them.

Do you and your family have any Christmas traditions when it comes to the baking?

My mom and I book a day each year to bake our family recipes as well as make perogies.

Then we go out for dinner to toast our accomplishment — and so we don't have to do any more dishes!

Fruitcake always gets a bad rap. Where do people go wrong with it?

I think people don't think you can alter the fruit and nut combination, but you have a great deal of flexibility.

So long as the total measurement of fruit and nuts is the same, feel free to switch out the candied peel for dried cherries or cranberries, or replace the prunes with figs!



Anna Olson. SUBMITTED

Any tips to ensure a sturdy gingerbread house that will stand the test of time and also small hands picking candy off of it?

For a gingerbread house that needs to remain intact for more than a week, then it really shouldn't be made to be eaten. In this case, use vegetable shortening instead of butter in the cookie dough. For an icing that holds up well, use a recipe that calls for meringue powder. It sets up firmly but it's also easy to work with when soft.

A Christmas cookie can take many shapes and forms. What is your go-to variety?

Other than my Grandma's Cherry Walnut cookies, I must have my Toblerone Shortbread onhand the entire month of December.

Your love for baking and sweets is undeniable, but is there one thing you don't like to whip up in your kitchen?

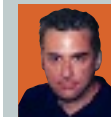
I've never really clicked with rum balls. I always pass them over if they are on a cookie platter and I don't make them at home.

Last, but perhaps most important, do you leave milk and cookies out for Santa on Christmas Eve?

You bet! I need to stay on the nice list!

Liquid Assets

White wines for zombies with Santa hats?



LIQUID ASSETS
Peter Rockwell
@therealwineguy
liquidassets@eastlink.ca

I write this column assuming the world hasn't ended today. If I'm wrong, here are some red wine suggestions to match with turkey for all you roaming hordes of zombies who may or may not have taken over the earth.

One of the wine world's most heinous old wives' tales is that white wines only go with white meats and red wines only go with red meats. If something has to end today, please let it be that thick slice of baloney.

You have to think about more than the star of the meal when it comes to a liquid pairing. Considering all the side dishes means a meal featuring the grand gobble can cast a wide net catching many red wines.

For some outside the box drinking, think a mid-priced Italian Chianti, a robust Rioja from Spain or a fresh flavoured merlot from California, Australia or Chile.

As a long time pinot-file, I tend to crave a fruit-forward pinot noir when carving. New Zealand knows its way around the grape and

the 2011 Oyster Bay Pinot Noir (\$19.95 - \$24.99) oozes ample very berry fruit that should appeal to all of your table mates, whether alive ... or living dead.

Happy holidays!

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Holiday cheer in a glass

1. In bowl, whisk egg yolks until a light golden colour, about 2 mins. Gradually add 1/4 cup of sugar and salt, beating until sugar dissolves. Add milk and half of nutmeg, then beat until slightly frothy.

2. In bowl, use electric mixer to beat egg whites until they hold soft peaks. With mixer running, sprinkle in 1 tbsp of remaining sugar and whip until egg whites form stiff peaks. Fold into yolk mix until light and airy with no lumps. Cover and refrigerate at least 2 hours.

3. Just before serving, place cold cream in a large chilled bowl. Use electric mixer to beat until the cream forms soft peaks. With mixer still running, gradually add remaining 1 tablespoon of sugar and vanilla. Beat until firm peaks form and there is no liquid left. Fold the whipped cream into the eggnog, sprinkle with the remaining nutmeg, and serve.

4. If spiking the eggnog, pour or spoon into glasses and add bourbon to taste to the individual glasses. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/**

ELIZABETH KARMEL, A GRILLING AND SOUTHERN FOODS EXPERT.

Ingredients

- 4 large eggs, yolks and whites separated
- 1/4 cup, plus 2 tbsp superfine sugar
- Pinch sea salt
- 2 cups whole milk
- 1 tsp freshly grated nutmeg
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- Bourbon, to serve (optional)



This recipe serves six. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Have a few gaps in your schedule you're looking to fill?
Whether you're hoping to dance, drink or just relax, check out these hot upcoming events.



MIX OF SIX
Samantha Everts
ottawa@metronews.ca



Indie Rock Holiday Party

Come get a feel for what the city's music community is all about at the annual Punk Ottawa Holiday party this Friday night at Mavericks. Seven-piece indie-pop band Amos the Transparent headline the all-local bill with fellow rockers The Gallop and recent Big Money Shot winners The Strain. Punkottawa.com.



Midnight Lullabies

Photographer Darryl Reid taught himself photography with his mother's old Pentax camera but has since then moved on to capturing the underground music scene of Ottawa. His amazing photos of musicians performing in basement shows to bars across the capital will be on display at Invisible Cinema with the vernissage tonight. Friday through Jan. 23. Invisiblecinema.ca.



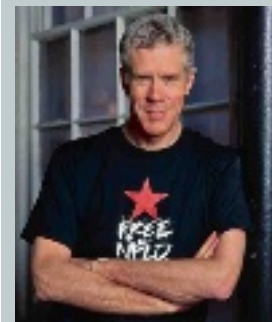
Honeyman and the Brothers Farr

Take a snowy drive up the winding road that leads to Wakefield's Black Sheep Inn for a night of rootsy folk pop music from Honeyman and the Brothers Farr this Friday night. Their sweet vocal harmonies are inspired by Paul Simon and they will be joined by special guest Caroline Keating. Honeyfarr.com.



Fallowfield Tree Farm

Not all trees are created equal but you've got a pretty good chance of finding the perfect one for your holiday celebrations at the Ottawa Tree Farm. Make a day of it with the family with their cut-your-own tree sale but first go dashing through the snow on one of their horse-drawn sleigh rides. December. ottawatreefarm.com.



Stuart McLean

With more than a million books sold in Canada, the country's favourite storyteller Stuart McLean visits the National Arts Centre for his yearly Christmas tour this weekend. The CBC host of the Vinyl Café will debut two brand new Dave and Morely Christmas stories with music from Vancouver singer-songwriter Reid Jamieson. Saturday and Sunday. Cbc.ca/vinylcafe.



Lights at Parliament

Whether you celebrate Christmas, Kwanzaa or Hanukkah, the lights at Parliament Hill is a sight not just for the tourists. More than 300,000 twinkling multicoloured lights will make the winter landscape glow in Ottawa-Gatineau dotting historic monuments, museums and all along Confederation Boulevard. Bundle up and see how many you can count. Until Jan. 7. canadascapital.gc.ca.




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HOLIDAY 2012



gift guide



All the latest on smartphones —the tech gift for the holidays — PAGE 28



Last-minute gifts for everyone on your list— PAGES 30-34



Easy ways to get crafty when wrapping gifts for the holidays — PAGE 35

4

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iPhone 5 — \$699 and up (without contract).



MIKE
YAWNEY
For Metro

With processors and features that rival small computers, it's no wonder smartphones have quickly become the high tech gift for the holidays. There are many smartphones to choose from, but which one is right for your loved one? Take a look at our picks to find the perfect one.

iPhone 5 — \$699 and up (without contract)

Featuring an all new design, Apple's latest smartphone is sure to turn heads. The diamond-cut bevelled edges not only look beautiful, they take away the rough edges, giving it an elegant feel. This is the first iPhone to feature LTE, which means you can take advantage of the latest high-speed wireless networks. The Retina display has also been made slightly larger so you get more

flair. Often referred to as a smartphone/tablet hybrid, the Note II features a large 5.5-inch screen that can be navigated through touch or a special stylus known as an S Pen. Users can use the pen to sketch or draw on maps, photos or blueprints. The blazing quad-core processor gives this phone performance like no other.

Nokia Lumia 920 — \$549.99 (without contract)

The most advanced Windows phone to date. Sporting wireless charging and

usable workspace on the screen.

Samsung Galaxy Note 2 — \$729 (without contract)

An ideal smartphone for those in marketing, advertising or someone with a creative



a touchscreen so sensitive you can use it while wearing gloves, the Nokia 920 is sure to be a popular phone this holiday. The 8.7-megapixel camera also shoots surprisingly well in low light conditions.

LG Optimus G — \$599 (without contract)

This smartphone has received the title of "Canada's fastest smartphone." Not only is it



the country. The Optimus G also features a voice-activated camera that will snap photos whenever someone says the word "cheese."

Sony Xperia T — \$549 (no contract, price may vary)

Known simply as "The Bond Phone," the Xperia T is the same smartphone used by 007 himself in Skyfall. This handset features a 13-megapixel camera and is Playstation certified, which is perfect for those who enjoy gaming on the go. Music and photos can easily be shared by bringing this smartphone close to other NFC-enabled devices.

Mophie Powerstation Pro — \$99

Smartphones are simply paperweights without a fully

Samsung Galaxy Note 2 — \$729 (without contract).



charged battery. Fortunately, this device will ensure your battery lasts all day and then some. The Powerstation Pro holds enough juice to recharge your smartphone up to four times. It's lightweight, rugged, dust-proof and waterproof so it's perfect for those constantly on the go.

Ballistic Cases — various prices

You spent a fortune on your new smartphone, so why not protect your investment. Ballistic cases are designed to do just that. Ballistic cases have been tested to withstand drops, being run over by vehicles, and Fido's canine teeth. Note: Not a good idea to let your dog use your smartphone as a chew toy.

Clockwise, from left, Nokia Lumia 920 — \$549.99 (without contract), Sony Xperia T — \$549 (no contract, price may vary), LG Optimus G — \$599 (without contract), Ballistic Cases — various prices, Mophie Powerstation Pro — \$99.

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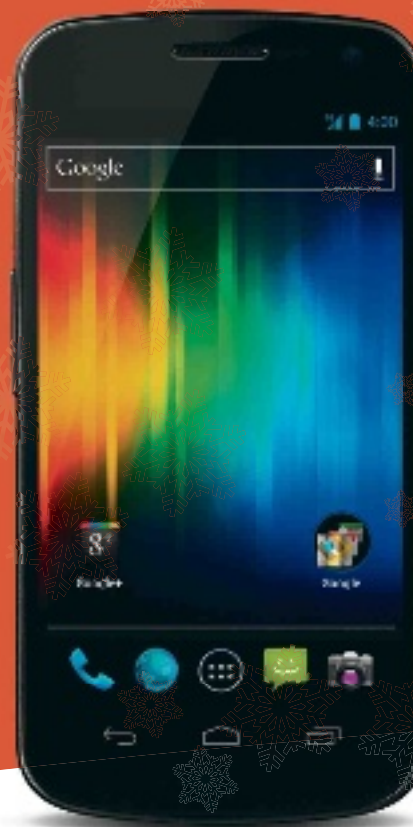
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Sleigh full of ideas for her



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Easy Bake Oven, \$49.99, available at Canadian Tire, canadiantire.ca.



Master Moves Mickey, \$89.99, available at Toys "R" Us (toysrus.ca) and Zellers (zellers.com).



Fisher-Price Laugh & Learn Dance & Play Puppy, \$49.99, available at Toys "R" Us (toysrus.ca).



VANDRING UGGLA Glove Puppet, \$4.99, available at Ikea, ikea.com/ca.



Baby Alive Baby Wanna Walk Doll, \$69.99, available at Hasbro, hasbro.com/en_CA.



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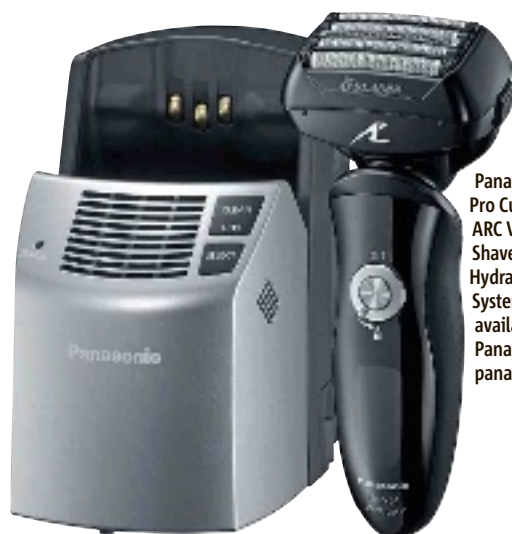
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Challenge yourself this year by finding different ways to gift wrap your Christmast presents. JUPITERIMAGES/COMSTOCK/THINKSTOCK

Get crafty with gift wrapping



SARAH GUNN
YummyMummyClub.ca

Wrapping presents is one of my favourite things to do this time of year. I love the patterns of paper, the ribbons and the bows.



This year, though, I wanted to get a little crafty with my Christmas wrapping so I challenged myself to come up with three different ways to use brown paper.

I discovered that brown paper packages don't just have to be tied up with string — they can be decorated with almost anything. (Yes, The



Use craft paint to create a holiday theme. YUMMY MUMMY PHOTO



Try ribbon, scrapbook paper and stickers for decoration. YUMMY MUMMY PHOTO



Wrap your package in a band of felt and add details. YUMMY MUMMY PHOTO

Sound of Music is my favourite movie of all time).

I mostly used things around the house, but if you don't have a basement full of craft supplies, you can get everything

you need at any craft store.

- Paint your packages in a holiday theme using craft paint.

- Use ribbon, scrapbook paper, and stickers for another look.

- Wrap your package in a band of felt and add details with felt snowflakes and letters.

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Nathan MacKinnon, from Sidney Crosby's hometown of Cole Harbour, N.S., is living his dream overseas with a spot on Canada's world junior roster. The youngest player on Team Canada is considered a possible No. 1 pick in the 2013 NHL draft. JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mackinnon dreaming of gold this Christmas

World juniors. Highly touted 17-year-old living dream with chance for glory with Team Canada



PHILIP CROUCHER
Metro in Halifax

Nathan MacKinnon will wake up Christmas morning far away from the comforts of home.

He'll open his eyes in a Russian hotel room next to a teammate who, like him, is spending the holidays thousands of miles from the family gatherings and traditions he's come to love.

Still, there is no place

Quoted

"It was a cool experience — a world junior game — it was exciting. And I'm sure every game is going to get more and more exciting."

Nathan MacKinnon, on playing for Team Canada in a 3-2 exhibition loss to Finland Thursday

MacKinnon would rather be this holiday season. That's because the 17-year-old Cole Harbour, N.S., standout with the Halifax Mooseheads is fulfilling a dream — one shared by most teenagers who lace up their skates — to play for Canada at the world junior hockey championship.

"It's different, but I'm doing something that I love. I'm having a lot of fun," he said Thursday by phone after playing in Canada's first exhibition

game, a 3-2 loss to Finland. "It would be nice to be home for Christmas, but this is an excellent thing."

MacKinnon, who doesn't turn 18 until September, is the youngest member of Team Canada, but goes into the tournament with plenty of expectations.

A potential first-overall pick in next year's NHL draft, MacKinnon will be looked upon to play an important role among 18- and 19-year-olds.

Whatever that role turns out to be, MacKinnon is ready to accept it. With the Mooseheads, he's on the No. 1 line and getting plenty of power-play time. With Team Canada, he could be used as a 13th forward and get the odd shift on special teams.

"I want to help the team and I want to be an impact player," said MacKinnon, who sits third in Quebec Major Junior Hockey League scoring with 22 goals and 30 assists in 30 games. "But I'm going to do whatever role I'm given and hopefully the team can be successful."

MacKinnon is the first Nova Scotian to play at the world juniors for Canada since 2007 and 2008, when Brad Marchand of Hammonds Plains cracked the team.

World juniors

'Discipline is the subplot' in Canada's loss in Finland

It was an early wake-up call for Canada's world junior team. Undisciplined and out of sorts, the Canadians dropped an exhibition game to host Finland 3-2 on Thursday. Two of the Finnish goals were scored with a 5-on-3 power play during a game that saw Canada assessed nine minor penalties in total.

"I think the challenge for us obviously is coming together as a team," said Canadian coach Steve Spott. "It's our first game. But ultimately I think discipline is the subplot here tonight, where we have to get used to the standard of officiating and deal with our discipline a lot smarter than we did tonight."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Lockout

Season closer to cancellation with more games axed

The NHL has moved one step closer to calling off another season because of a labour dispute.

Regular-season games through Jan. 14 were wiped off the schedule on Thursday afternoon, setting up a potential timeline for the league's collective bargaining negotiations with the NHL Players' Association.

It was likely the final batch of games that will be cancelled if commissioner Gary Bettman holds true to his word that the league must play at least a 48-game schedule with playoffs ending in June. The next announcement from the league will either be a new CBA or a second cancelled season in eight years.

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Horoscopes

♈

Aries

March 21 - April 20

Whatever your age or position, you are about to get the chance to move up in the world. Powerful people will be watching you closely today and over the weekend, so make sure they like what they see.

♉

Taurus

April 21 - May 21

Times are good and about to get even better. It may take two or three days for things to pick up speed but once they do, you will be on a roller coaster ride of fun and games. Hang on and enjoy the experience.

♊

Gemini

May 22 - June 21

Most likely you are reading too much into a situation that is of no real importance but for your own peace of mind, you should investigate further. If someone is trying to take you for a ride — get off quick!

♋

Cancer

June 22 - July 23

You will notice a subtle change in the way other people react to you today. But it is the way that you choose to behave towards them that will determine whether the next few weeks are going to be easy or difficult.

♌

Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

The Sun's change of signs puts the emphasis on matters of a work nature, and also on your physical health. The two are closely related. In a nutshell: If you work too hard your wellbeing may suffer. Slow down!

♍

Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

You don't have to do anything special today: The Sun's change of signs will do it all for you. One of the most active times of the year is about to begin, so prepare yourself mentally for what lies ahead.

♎

Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

No matter how many interesting things may be taking place in the world, you must focus exclusively on the needs and desires of loved ones today. There has never been a better time to show how much you care.

♏

Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

Keep your options open today because there will be all sorts of new and interesting events taking place and you need to be free to react to any or all of them. Part of the meaning of life is to have fun.

♐

Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

The past few weeks have been hectic to say the least and the momentum you have built up will keep you going for quite some time. But don't forget you have limits.

♑

Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

You may be eager to get started on a new project but think before you act. Make sure you are well prepared. Any day can be a new beginning. Though, yes, this one is more special than most.

♒

Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

You may be a bit more reclusive than usual today and over the weekend but there is no need to worry about it. You're not withdrawing from the world, you're just getting your thoughts and feelings in order.

♓

Pisces

Feb. 20 - March 20

You seem to be having doubts about something that only a few days ago you thought was the best idea in the world. The good news is your doubts will pass very quickly and then you can get on and make it happen.

SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword

Across

1. Fishing need
4. To and —
7. Catch sight of
11. Silkworm
12. Make tracks
13. Desire
14. Schedule abbr.
15. Sale condition
17. Garfield pal
18. Seafarer's beacon
21. Disco proof of age (abbr.)
22. Select
23. Flintstone pet
25. Before
26. Magnum, P.I.'s pilot buddy
28. School subj.
29. — Acres
31. Cruise setting
32. Emergency room personnel (abbr.)
33. — Lingus
34. Smack a fly
35. Tavern brew
36. "Dirty Harry" actor (init.)
37. Eastern prov.
42. Cloak
43. Fashion magazine
44. Scottish cap
47. Barbra's "Funny Girl" co-star
48. Be indisposed
49. View
50. Hide
51. One of The Three Stooges
52. Family tree member (abbr.)

Down

1. Soak flax
2. Globe
3. Ringing up, old style
4. Flown at the 2012 Olympic games
5. Poison ivy result
6. Exclude
7. Whoop
8. Pea jackets
9. Mayberry boy
10. Casual top
16. Sandcastle spot
19. Wedding vows
20. Diner sign
23. German article
24. Quaint hotels
25. According to
26. Afternoon gathering
27. Garfield, for one
29. Elaborate party
30. Actress Witherspoon
31. Spring or Fall clothing
34. Chem. or biol.
35. Deviate
37. Point a finger at
38. October birthstone
39. Type of chowder
40. Stew
41. Prefix with confidence
42. Officer of the peace
45. Yes, to Angus
46. Actor Gibson

BY BETTY MARTIN

Yesterday's Crossword

What's online

See today's answers
metronews.ca/
answers.

Yesterday's Sudoku

4	8	7	6	9	2	1	3	5
8	5	3	4	7	1	8	2	9
9	2	1	3	6	5	4	5	7
8	6	5	7	1	4	2	9	3
3	7	9	5	2	8	6	1	4
2	1	4	8	3	6	7	5	8
5	3	8	2	6	7	9	4	1
1	9	6	8	4	3	5	7	2
7	4	2	1	5	8	3	6	5

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Happy Holidays.



Freest Stunnamphix.

Stunnamphix is an aspiring rapper from Miami. This December, she accompanied us on a trip to New York City, where we took this photo of her in front of a few Christmas trees wearing the Bra Bodysuit, Leather Mini Skirt and keeping warm in our Unisex Long Wool Coat.

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